All You Need Is Kill

1

Original Story by Hiroshi Sakurazaka

Storyboards by Ryosuke Takeuchi

Original Illustrations by yoshitoshi ABe

Art by Takeshi Obata

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Based on the novel *All You Need Is Kill*

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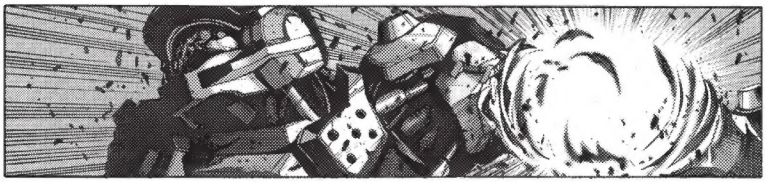
#1 Keiji Kiriya
IS IT TRUE THE GREEN TEA THEY SERVE IN JAPAN AT THE END OF YOUR MEAL...
... COMES FREE?
HPF
HUFF
THERE'S SOME-THING I'VE BEEN WANTIN' TO KNOW.
KOFF
KOFF
KOFF
I'M RITA VRATASKI.
I'LL STAY WITH YOU UNTIL YOU DIE.

#1 Keiji Kiriya

...
THE BOSO AREA WILL BE...
...COVERED BY A HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM, BRINGING A CLEAR AND SUNNY DAY.

BE CAREFUL OF THE UV RAYS IN THE AFTERNOON...
A DREAM ...
THAT WAS A DREAM...

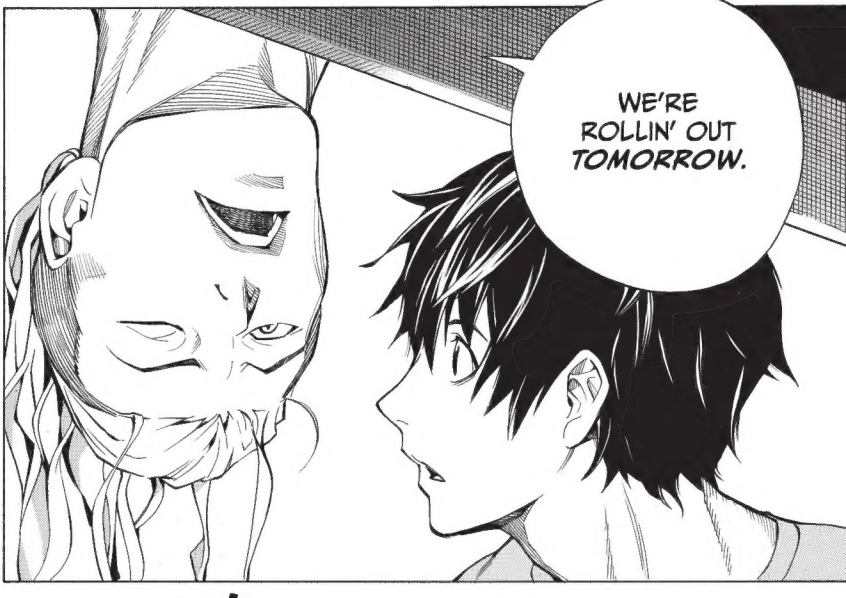


KEIJI.
I REMEMBER LOSING MY ARM TOO...
I FEEL SICK... A DREAM ABOUT BEING KILLED...

...

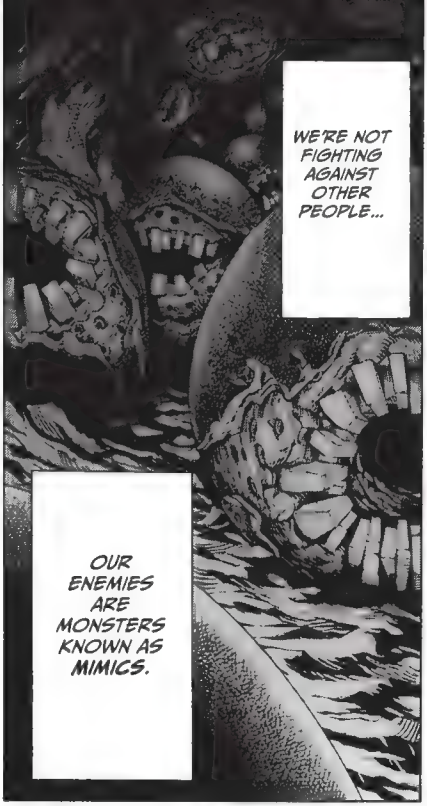
MAYBE... I'M JUST NERVOUS...
AH... OKAY...
SIGN THIS.
FWP
HN...? WHAT...?
宣誓書
SERIOUSLY... I DON'T WANNA RECEIVE A POSTHUMOUS PROMOTION IN A DREAM BEFORE I'VE EVEN SET FOOT ON THE BATTLEFIELD...
SHFF
BUT I ALREADY SIGNED ONE OF THESE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? HURRY UP AND SIGN IT.
IT'S A SIGNED CONFESSION SAYING "I STOLE THE BOOZE FROM THE PX."
WE'RE GOING DOWN TO STEAL IT RIGHT NOW, SO WE CAN HAVE A PARTY TONIGHT.
THEN AFTER THE BATTLE, WE'LL TURN IN THE CONFESSION SIGNED BY THE GUY WHO DIED. THE PERFECT PLAN, RIGHT?
Jin Yonabaru

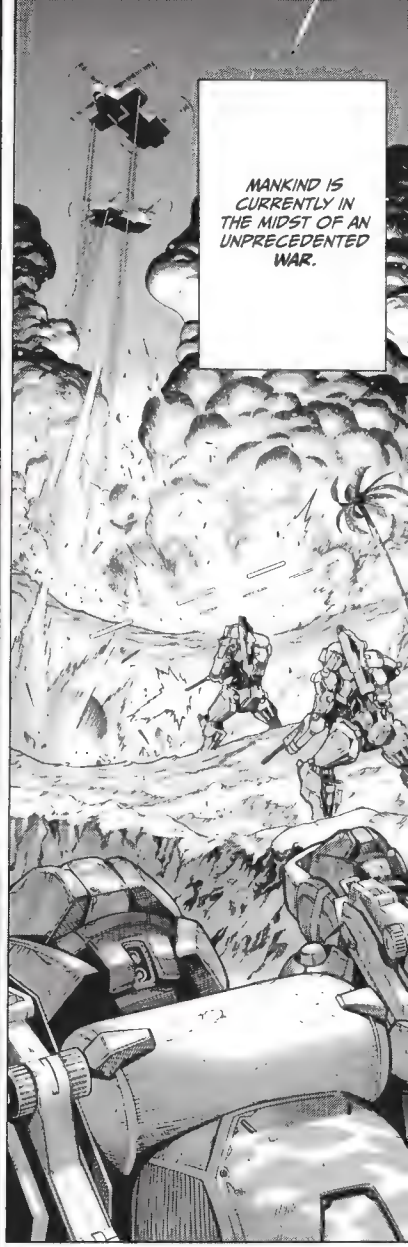
I KNOW THAT'S THE TRADITION, BUT... I DON'T GET IT.
WE SUIT UP THIS AFTER-NOON, YOU KNOW.
...? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...? THE PARTY'S *TONIGHT.*


WE'RE ROLLIN' OUT *TOMORROW.*

TO...
TOMORROW?!
GSH
OW...!

...AND READ THAT BOOK INSTEAD...
I DECIDED NOT TO DRINK LAST NIGHT...
WHAT...?
HEY, YOU OKAY?
Y-YEAH...
WAS IT ALL A DREAM...?
...BUT YOU NEED TO RELAX.
THIS IS YOUR FIRST BATTLE, SO I KNOW YOU'RE NERVOUS...
I-I GUESS I'M A LOT MORE FREAKED OUT THAN I THOUGHT I WAS.
I AM A SOLDIER ...
A JACKET SOLDIER GOING INTO MY FIRST BATTLE TOMORROW.
YES...
Keiji Kiriya

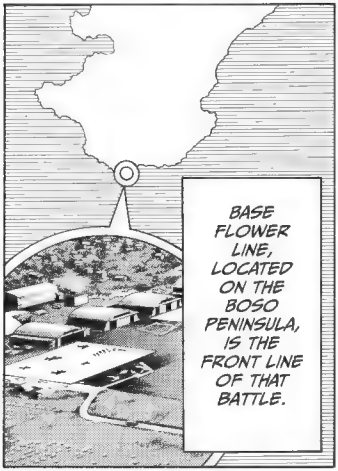

WE'RE NOT FIGHTING AGAINST OTHER PEOPLE...
OUR ENEMIES ARE MONSTERS KNOWN AS MIMICS.

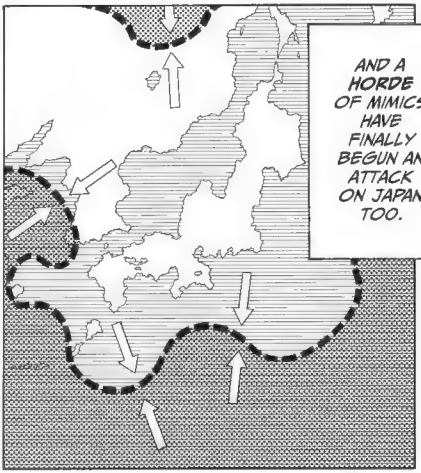

MANKIND IS CURRENTLY IN THE MIDST OF AN UNPRECEDENTED WAR.

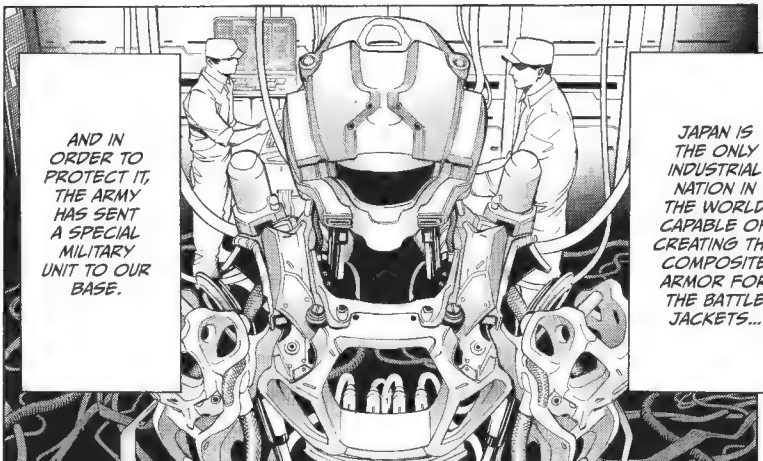
WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THEY CAME FROM OR WHAT KIND OF CREATURES THEY ARE.
THE ONLY THING WE KNOW IS THAT...

...THEY'RE TRYING TO WIPE OUT HUMANITY.
THE GROWN-UPS TALK ABOUT HOW FIGHTING THESE MONSTERS IS LIKE A SCI-FI STORY...
...BUT IT'S JUST ANOTHER DAY FOR ME. THIS BATTLE HAS BEEN GOING ON SINCE I WAS A KID.
WE CREATED THE UNITED DEFENSE FORCE TO FIGHT THEM, BUT THIS LONG, STRENUOUS WAR HAS GRADUALLY WORN US DOWN.

ZUFF ZUFF
EUROPE, OCEANIA, AFRICA... MANKIND IS SLOWLY BUT SURELY BEING HUNTED DOWN.
YEAH, OKINAWA'S SWARMING WITH MIMICS NOW.
HEY, DID YOU HEAR ABOUT OKINAWA?


BASE FLOWER LINE, LOCATED ON THE BOSO PENINSULA, IS THE FRONT LINE OF THAT BATTLE.


AND A **HORDE** OF MIMICS HAVE FINALLY BEGUN AN ATTACK ON JAPAN TOO.


AND IN ORDER TO PROTECT IT, THE ARMY HAS SENT A SPECIAL MILITARY UNIT TO OUR BASE.
JAPAN IS THE ONLY INDUSTRIAL NATION IN THE WORLD CAPABLE OF CREATING THE COMPOSITE ARMOR FOR THE BATTLE JACKETS...

THEY ARE...
...THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES LED BY RITA VRATASKI.
HER TEAM IS PRETTY MUCH THE ONLY MILITARY UNIT IN THE WORLD THAT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN BATTLE AGAINST THE MIMICS.
AND I'M GOING TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE AN AMAZING TEAM LIKE THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY..NO, TOMORROW.

YOU'LL GO CRAZY IF YOU SWEAT OVER IT TOO MUCH.
R-RIGHT...
KEIJI... JUST GET YOURSELF HOME WITHOUT SHOOTING ANYONE IN THE BACK AND THAT'LL BE FINE.

FWOOM...
SOUNDS LIKE YOU WANT SOME EXTRA TRAINING, CORPORAL YONABARU.
ZUFF...
ACK!
SARGE!!

THEN AGAIN, THE REAL WEIRDOS ARE THE GUYS WHO COME OUT OF BATTLE WITH ALL THEIR MARBLES.
YOU NEED TO BE LIKE THE SARGE. HE'S WORKED OUT HIS MUSCLES SO MUCH HIS BRAIN'S SHRUNK...
HMM!

NOTHING SIR!!
I WAS ONLY TELLING KIRIYA THAT YOUR IRON-STRONG MIND WAS FORGED OUT OF YOUR EVERYDAY TRAINING!
WHATEVER. ANYWAY...
SHUP
KRK KRK
WHAT'D YOU SAY ABOUT MY BRAIN?
Bartolome Ferrell
AT OH-NINE HUNDRED, THE 17TH COMPANY IS TO FALL IN AT THE NO. 1 TRAINING FIELD!!
PASS THE WORD TO THE REST OF THE KNUCKLE-HEADS!!
MRMR
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT...?
MRMR
WHAT ...?

AND THEY FOUND INADEQUACIES WITH YOUR EQUIPMENT... LOTS OF 'EM.
WE HAD A SURPRISE INSPECTION JUST NOW...
TWCH
FALL IN AT NO. 1 TRAINING FIELD AT OH-NINE HUNDRED, SIR!!
VSH
I CAN'T HEAR YOU!!

THAT ISN'T FAIR...!
BUT THAT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH US ...!
THE BASE COMMANDER'S BEEN TOUCHY BECAUSE THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES HAVE ARRIVED.
GIVE IT UP. YOU GUYS SHOULD HAVE TAKEN BETTER CARE OF YOUR GEAR.

...!

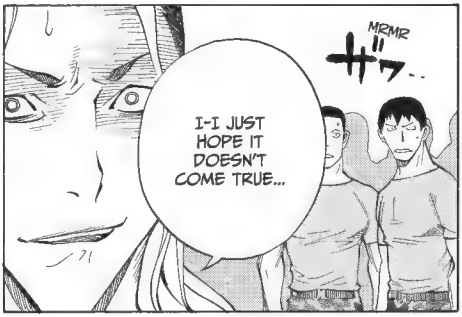
PHYSICAL TRAINING... I THINK.

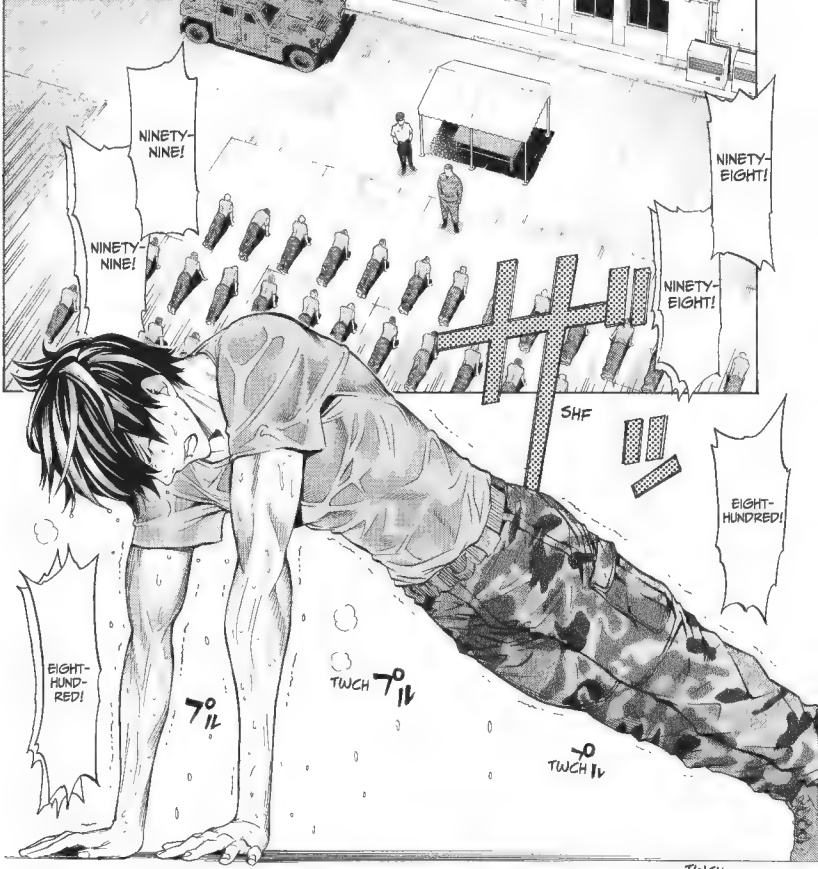
...
WHAT ?
WE'RE MOVING OUT TOMORROW, SO WHAT ARE THEY GONNA MAKE US DO?

FLOWER LINE
ELV. 10F t
WARI
UNITED STATES FORCES
CONTROLLE
IT IS UNLAWFUL TO ENTE
PERMISSION OF THE INST
WHILE ON THIS INSTALLA
AND THE PROPERTY UNDE
SUBJECT TO SEARCH UN
PUNISHABLE BY JAPANE
警
在 日 米
立 入 禁
基地司令官の許可なく、此の
法律違反である。 当該施設
身体及び所持品の捜索を受け
不法な立ち入りは、日本国法

HUH? KEIJI... THAT'S NOT FUNNY.
THAT'S WHAT I SAW IN MY DREAM.
OH, JUST A DREAM ?

THREE HOURS OF PUSH-UPS...
THREE ...!!


MRMR
I-I JUST HOPE IT DOESN'T COME TRUE...


NINETY-NINE!
NINETY-NINE!
NINETY-EIGHT!
NINETY-EIGHT!
SHF
EIGHT-HUNDRED!
EIGHT-HUNDRED!
TWCH
TWCH
TWCH

IT CAME TRUE...?
MY DREAM ...
TWCH
ONE!
ONE!
PANT
I-IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
PANT
TWCH
TWCH
Y-YOU WERE RIGHT, DAMMIT!!

BASTARDS!
KEIJI...
COUNT CLEAR ENOUGH FOR YOUR MOM TO HEAR!
TWO!
HAHAHA
AND SOUND OFF!
TWO !
IMPOS-SIBLE...
KEEP YOUR BACK STRAIGHT !!
SHIIJEEEE
THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES.
?
LOOK OVER THERE.
THREE!
THREE !
THE BEST JACKET SOLDIER IN THE WORLD...
HF
HF
THAT'S HER.

ゴォォォォ
RITA VRATASKI.

THAT'S RITA...?!
WHAT?! SHE'S A LOT SMALLER THAN I THOUGHT.
BUT THAT'S THE FULL METAL BITCH WHO'S BEEN CRUSHING ALL THOSE MIMICS.
BE CAREFUL OF WOMEN, KEIJI. DON'T JUDGE THEM BY THEIR LOOKS.
...
THE FULL METAL BITCH...?
SHE LOOKS MORE LIKE A PUPPY.
THIRTY-FIVE!
THIRTY-FIVE!!
SO THEY'RE JUST FOR SHOW...?
THEN AGAIN... THERE'S ALSO A RUMOR THAT THEY'RE A PROPAGANDA UNIT TO SPREAD THE USE OF NEW WEAPONS AND TACTICS.
THAT'S RIGHT. IN THAT CASE, IT'S BETTER FOR A WOMAN TO BE LEADING THE UNIT.
I SEE...

HEY, KEIJI. WHAT ARE YOU STARIN' AT HER FOR?
YOU IN LOVE?
?!
WH... WHAT...
BUT...
HAVEN'T I SEEN HER BEFORE...?
ACK...
SHE NOTICED ME.
FORTY-FOUR!
FORTY-FOUR!
SHIFF
SHIFF
?!
...
SHIFF
...

SHIP
H-HEY!! SHE'S COMING THIS WAY!!
PSST PSST
WHY?!
HEY, STOP...
DON'T COME NEAR ME!
SHIP
SWIP
...?
SHUP
PERMISSION TO SPEAK, SIR.
W-WHAT IS IT...?

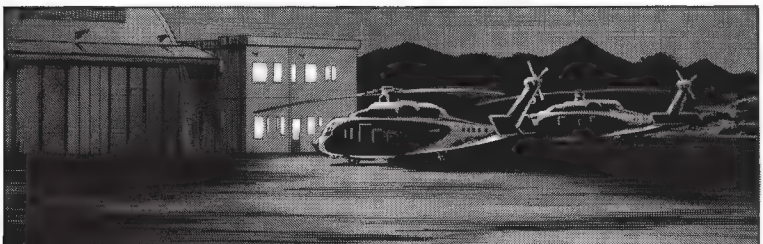
I'D LIKE TO JOIN AND BE A PART OF THE TEAM SO OUR OPERATION TOMORROW WILL BE A SUCCESS!!
I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED THAT KIND OF TRAINING IN MY PLATOON!
?!
...
MAY I JOIN THE TRAINING?
S-SURE. GO AHEAD.

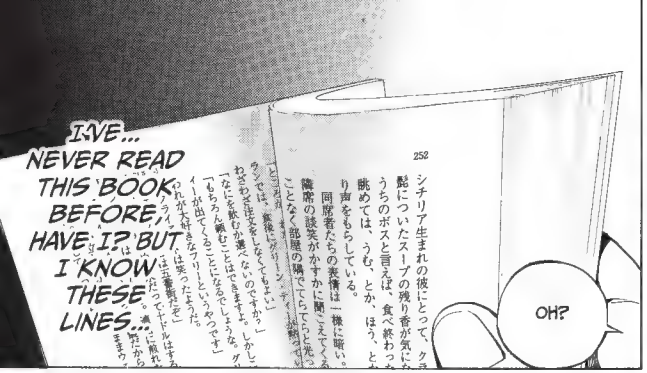
!
SHF!

DO I HAVE SOME-THING ON MY FACE...?
EIGHTY-ONE!!
EIGHTY-ONE!
EIGHTY!
EIGHTY!!

WHAT ?
YOU'VE BEEN STARING AT ME.
N-NO.
I'M NOT USED TO PEOPLE STARING RIGHT AT ME.
S-SORRY! THERE'S NO SPECIFIC REASON FOR IT...
I SEE.
...
NINE-HUNDRED !
NINE-HUNDRED !
SO THIS IS RITA VRATASKI...
SHE REALLY LOOKS LIKE... AN ORDINARY GIRL...

SPLOOSH
I GUESS IT WAS ONLY A DREAM AFTER ALL.
I REMEMBER DOING IT FOR THREE HOURS, UNTIL NOON IN MY DREAM...
SHP
SHP
IT ONLY WENT ON FOR AN HOUR...
KEIJI!
KRSHAA
PARTY TIME TONIGHT !!
OH... EH...
I'M... STILL FEELING WEIRD...
SO I THINK I'LL STAY IN MY BUNK AND READ MY BOOK.
GSH
WHAT?! FOR GOD'S SAKE!




I-IVE... NEVER READ THIS BOOK BEFORE, HAVE I? BUT I KNOW THESE LINES...
252
シチリア生まれの彼にとって、クラ
髪についたスープの残り香が気に
うちのボスと言えば、食べ終わっ
眺めては、うむ、とか、ほう、と
り声をもらしている。
同席者たちの表情は一様に暗い。
隣席の談笑がかすかに聞こえてくる
ことなく部屋の隅でてらてらと光っ

OH?

MAYBE YONABARU TOLD ME THE STORY?

HAHAHAHA
アハハハ

...
I NEVER IMAGINED I'D BE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE RITA VRATASKI...
I'M FINALLY GOING TO FIGHT THOSE MIMICS TOMORROW.

I JUST NEED TO GET MYSELF HOME...
JUST SURVIVE...
IT WAS ONLY A DREAM... I WON'T DIE.
I'LL COME BACK ALIVE NO MATTER WHAT.

TMP
TMP
TMP
BEEP
BEEP
LISTEN UP!
WE ARE HEADING OUT TO KOTOIUSHI ISLAND IN THE OGASAWARA ISLAND CHAIN!!
BEEP
ALERT
KRRCHK
BEEP
WE MUST RETAKE THE ISLAND!

DRIVE THEM OUT OF THE GROUND...
...AND ANNIHILATE THEM!!
BIP
REMEMBER THAT YOUR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES ARE AMONG THEM!!
THE LIVES OF THIRTY-FIVE MILLION PEOPLE REST ON YOUR SHOULDERS.
...IT'LL ONLY BE A MATTER OF DAYS BEFORE THEY CRUSH TOKYO!!
IF THE MIMICS MANAGE TO MAKE THEIR NEST HERE...
SHOOM
ZUFF
KSSH
GSH
JP

KRSHAA
...
ROGER.
ドオォン
KRBOOM
ZZT...
ジ ジ...
ジ ジ...
ZZT...
KEIJI.
HFF
HFF
HFF
BOOSH
RATATATA...
タタタ
TATA...
タタ
ゴォォォ
GWOOO
KRZOOM
ドドド
BOOSH
ドド
BOOM

KRDOOM
ドォオン
CALM DOWN.
OUR JOB IS SIMPLE.
...
KRDOOM
ドォオン
WE JUST NEED TO KILL THE DAMN MIMICS THAT GOT PAST THE MAIN FORCE. GOT THAT?
Y-YES...
FOCUS.
KRDOOM
PANT
PANT
GWOOSH
ゴォッ
!
THIS ISN'T A DREAM...! IT'S NOT A DRILL EITHER!

THIS IS A REAL BATTLE-FIELD.
HUFF
THIS IS REAL...
HUFF
ドォォォ
KRDOOM
PUP
PUP
WATCH OUT AHEAD OF YOU.
THEY'RE COMING !!
KLAK
KLAK
KRDOOOM
HUFF
I SEE 'EM!!
FIRE!!
HUFF
AAAAAH!!

DAK
DAK
DAK
THP
THP
THP
THP
VIP
VIP
KTHR
SWOOSH
SWIRL
KNEE

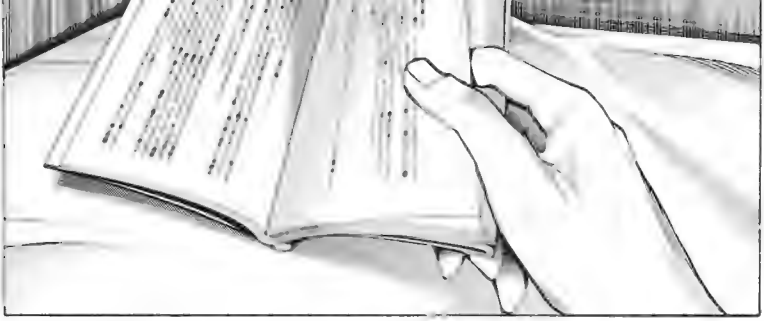
DAMN IT, WHAT WERE THE OTHERS DOING?!
THERE'S TOO MANY OF 'EM...!
WE'LL BE SITTING DUCKS IF WE STAY HERE!!
GO!
KSH
!!
KRRCH
KRDOOM
BOOSH
GSH
BLAM
KCH
...A MIMIC!
AH...
HUFF
HUFF
SO THAT'S...
TRSHHA!
JAVELIN ROUNDS!

BOOSH
BOOSH
YONA-
BARU!
ZLUSH...
!
...
TWCH
KCCH
TWCH
KCCH
YO...
!!
KRSHA

ZUUSH
NO...
!!!
N...
KNIVE
BOOSH

GWOO...
ACK...
AAARG!!
...!!!
KRSHAA
IT HURTS, IT HURTS... IT'S BURNING! IT HURTS... IT HURTS. IT'S BURNING, IT'S BURNING! AAAAAARGH!!
IT HURTS! IT HURTS! IT HURTS! IT HURTS!
I'M... DONE FOR...
TUCH
TUCH
...

BLIP
GSH
I'M DYING...



WHAT...

WHAT?!
...
UP
KEIJI.
SIGN THIS.
TAP
FLIP
SIGN... SIGN...?
SIGN A CONFES-SION...
NO... WAIT, WAIT... I JUST...
...DIED! DIDN'T I...?

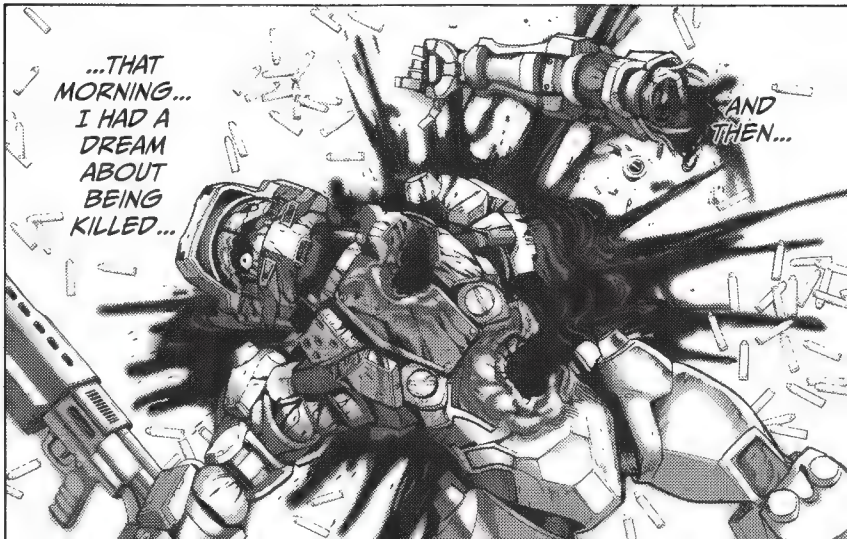
ARRRRGH!!
URGH...
URRRRGH!!
OH, COME ON...
SPLAT
SPLAT
PANT
PANT
WHAT THE...? WHAT IS THIS... SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT...
YOU OKAY?
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A DREAM... I WAS SO SURE IT WAS REAL...
YOU FEELING SICK?
WE'RE ROLLING OUT TOMORROW, YOU KNOW.

T-
TOMORROW
?!
TOMOR-
ROW
AGAIN
...?
OH.
FWP

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
YOU
...?
FWP
FWP
THIS
SCENE
...
!
ここはジャパニーズ
いても出てくるもの
あ、
わたしが皆さん
食後にグリーン・ティーが黙
文をしなくてもよ
飲むか選べないの
頼むことはできな
てくることにな
I
REMEMBER...
EVERY WORD
OF IT...
THE SCENE
WHERE THE
DETECTIVE
GATHERS
EVERYBODY
TOGETHER TO
EXPLAIN WHO THE
MURDERER IS...
HE BEGINS WITH
SMALL TALK ABOUT
HOW GREEN TEA
AT THE END OF
A MEAL IS FREE
IN JAPAN...
BUT...

...I READ THIS ON THE NIGHT BEFORE WE LEFT FOR THE BATTLE!!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO HAVE DREAMT A PART OF THE NOVEL...
...I HAVEN'T READ.
...

KEIJI...?
...
THAT'S RIGHT... IT WAS MY FIRST TIME READING IT BUT IT DIDN'T FEEL THAT WAY...


...THAT MORNING... I HAD A DREAM ABOUT BEING KILLED...
AND THEN...

MY LEFT ARM WAS BLOWN OFF...
MAYBE... MAYBE THAT...
...WASN'T A DREAM EITHER...?
WHAT...? DOES THIS MEAN...
...I'VE...
...DIED TWICE ALREADY...?

IF I STAY HERE...
...I'LL BE SENT INTO BATTLE AGAIN TOMOR-ROW...
FLOWER LINE ELV.10Ft

...AND I'LL DIE!

KEIJI?

DAMN IT...

HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
KEIJI!
KEI—
FSH
ANY-WHERE !!
I HAVE TO RUN FOR IT...
SHF
SHF
KLAK KLAK
IF I STAY HERE, I'LL...
PANT
PANT
SHF
SOME-WHERE FAR...
I CAN'T STAND GOING THROUGH THAT AGONY AGAIN.
SHF
KLAK
KLAK

OUCH...
OW ...
ROLL
ROLL
WHAM
AAH!
ROLL
I-I'M SORRY.
ME TOO. I WASN'T LOOKING ...
HUFF
HUFF
OH.

YOU'RE HURT.
Rachel Kisaragi

NO, I'M FINE...
SORRY, I'M IN A HURRY.
WHAT? OH.
BUT YOU'RE BLEEDING ...
SARGE.
HEY.
WHAT IS THIS?
YOU MUST HAVE HIT YOUR HEAD AGAINST THE CART. I'M SORRY... YOU SHOULD GET CHECKED OUT.
NO, I'M FINE. REALLY.
WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
KIRIYA, DID YOU DO THIS?
YES...

LEMME SEE.
U-UM...
ペチ
IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS. DON'T WORRY.
WE WERE GONNA HAVE A PT SESSION AFTER THIS BUT YOU CAN SKIP IT.
HURRY UP AND GET THAT WOUND TREATED AT THE INFIRMARY!
FSH
...
YES SIR...
WH-WHAT IS IT?!
...
YOU'RE TO FALL IN AT OH-NINE HUNDRED!
HEY, YONABARU!

BUT I WAS GOING TO DIE AGAIN IF I STAYED THERE, SO I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE RUN FOR IT.
DESERTERS WILL BE SHOT.
I ESCAPED FROM BASE FLOWER LINE.
FLOWER LI
ELV. 10 F

I HAVE TO GET AWAY FROM THIS PLACE..!!
...AND NOT TO KEEP AN EYE ON ANY YOUNG DESERTERS.
AFTER ALL, THEIR JOB IS TO GET RID OF ANY SUSPICOUS INDIVIDUALS WHO APPROACH RITA...
THE SECURITY GUARD AT THE U.S. ARMY GATE LET ME THROUGH EASILY.

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
IF I KEEP...
...GOING UP THIS ROAD, I'LL REACH A TOWN...!
ONCE I GET THERE...
...I CAN GO ANY-WHERE I WANT ...
257

...
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND HERE BEFORE.
OH, YOU'RE A SOLDIER.
SHUJAA
TUCH
KWEEE
I'M OKAY NOW...
HFF
HFF
C-CIVILIANS ...
MY GRANDDAUGHTER SAID THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE COLOR OF THE SEA, SO I CAME TO LOOK AT IT WITH HER.
I'M ...
... SAFE ...
I'M INSIDE THE ABSOLUTE DEFENSE ZONE...
SHUJAA
THAT'S RIGHT...! I'VE MADE IT OFF THE BASE...

ZWAK
KADOOM
!!
SPSHHH

SHUJAAA
シュウウウ
KWEE
SPAK
KRDOOM
ドォオォン
FUUUMP
SPLAT
AH...
AAH...
SHUJAA
NO WAY...

A MIMIC...!!
DASH
I'M INSIDE THE SAFE ZONE! HOW...
ZUSH
W-WHAT'S IT DOING HERE ALONE...?!
BOOSH
SHWAAA...

!
AAAAAH!
JUMP
BOOSH
KIWEEE

A A
A A A
GURGH.
...
ZSH
A
A
A
A
DSH
A A
A
DSH
ZLLSH
ZLLSH
ZLLSH
DSH
DSH
DSH
A A !!
AAAH!

BE CAREFUL OF THE UV RAYS IN THE AFTERNOON...
THE BOSO AREA WILL BE COVERED BY A HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM, BRINGING A CLEAR AND SUNNY DAY.

KEIJI.
SIGN THIS.
宣誓書

SURE, BUT SINCE WHEN DID YOU SUDDENLY LIKE GUNS?
CAN I SEE IT?

YEAH.

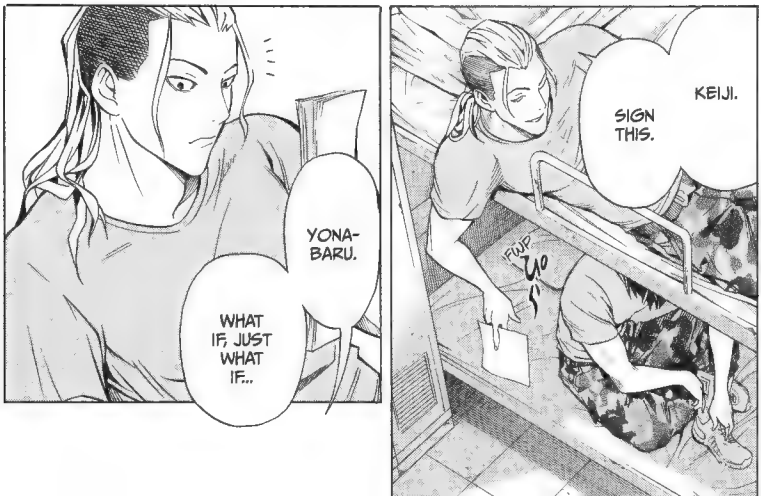
YONABARU... YOU GOT A GUN ON YOU, RIGHT?
...

IT'S LOADED.
DON'T POINT IT AT ME.
KLIK
YOU CAN PACK ONE OF THESE TOO ONCE YOU BECOME A CORPORAL.
キン
BUT IT'S NO BETTER THAN A PEASHOOTER AGAINST THOSE MIMICS...
HUH...
HEY ?!!
KCHK...

BLAM

...
UFO 145.000
SHUAA...
FLOWER LINE
ELV. 10Ft
THE BOSO AREA WILL BE COVERED BY A HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM, BRINGING A SUNNY AND CLEAR DAY.
BE CAREFUL OF THE UV RAYS IN THE AFTERNOON...
...
I SEE...
SO THAT'S HOW IT WORKS...

I DON'T KNOW WHY... IT HAPPENS NO MATTER WHERE AND HOW I DIE...
I COME BACK TO THIS MORNING WITH MY MEMORIES INTACT...
I DIE AND TIME LOOPS...
SEEMS LIKE THOSE ARE THE DAMNED RULES IN THIS DAMNED WORLD...
...


YONA-BARU.
WHAT IF, JUST WHAT IF...
KEIJI.
SIGN THIS.
FUP

...YOUR FIRST TIME JUST KEPT REPEATING FOREVER?
HUH? WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
YOU KNOW, LIKE "GO BACK TO THE START" IN A BOARD GAME OR SOMETHING...
WELL, THAT TOTALLY DEPENDS ON WHETHER YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT HAVING SEX OR GOING TO WAR.
BUT I NEVER WANT TO REPEAT THE OKINAWA LANDING OPERATION AGAIN.
NOT EVEN IF THEY THREATEN ME WITH A FIRING SQUAD.
I'M THE ONLY ONE IN THIS TIME LOOP.
I WONDER WHAT YONABARU WOULD DO IF HE FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS...
FIRING SQUAD...
EVEN IF I GET SHOT, I COME BACK AND REPEAT IT AGAIN.

...WHO HAS TO KEEP FIGHTING AGAINST THE FEAR OF DYING.
I'M THE ONLY ONE...
...IN THIS WORLD ...
I'LL DO IT.
IF STAYING ALIVE IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET BACK AT THIS WORLD, THEN I'LL FIGHT MY WAY THROUGH TO THE VERY END!!
FINE.

I DIED IN BATTLE TWICE... I DIED BY THE SEA ONCE... AND I DIED HERE ONCE...
SHIT
SO THIS IS...
...MY FIFTH TIME AROUND!!
AND THIS SMALL NUMBER...
5
...IS WHERE MY WAR BEGINS!!

Death comes quick,
in the beat of a heart.
And he ain't picky about
who he takes.

#2 Rita Vrataski
JP

WHEN I WAS A KID, WE OFTEN PRETENDED TO BE FIGHTING ALIENS.
TAKKA
TAKKA
TAKKA
DAMN IT. THEY HAVE TOO MUCH FIRE-POWER!
PAP
PAP
PAP
SHOOM
SHOOM
OUCH!
SHIFF
KEI!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
I WAS ALWAYS GOOD AT PLAYING THE HERO WHO DIES.
I'D RUN OUT IN FRONT OF THE ENEMY AND...
THERE HE IS!! SHOOT, SHOOT!!

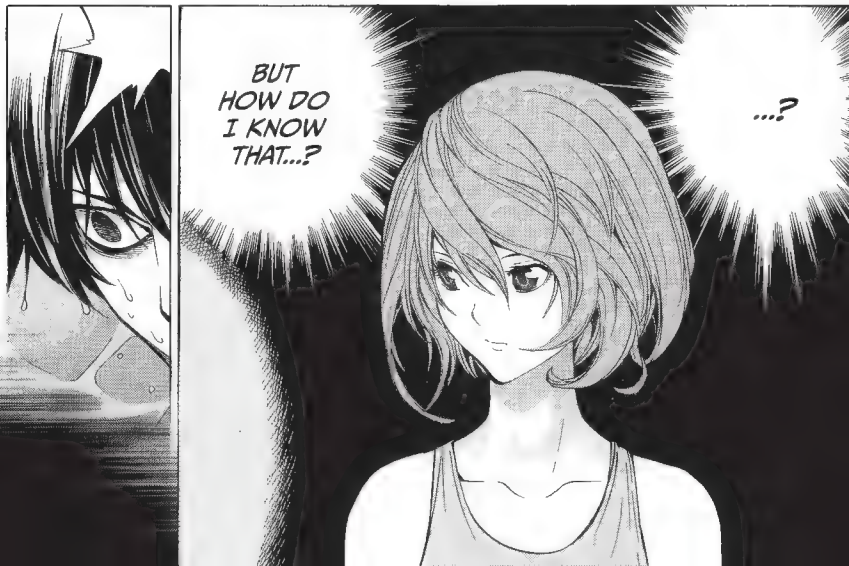
...TAKE ALL THE HITS.
TA
TA
TA
TA
KEI!
FUUMP
THE HERO DIES.
CHARGE !!
C'MON! DON'T LET KEI'S DEATH GO TO WASTE!!
BUT THE HUMANS WOULD GATHER THEIR COURAGE THANKS TO MY HONORABLE DEATH AND WIN THE WAR.
ZUFF
WAAH
WAAH
IT WAS A SILLY MAKE-BELIEVE GAME OF WHAT DEATH IS REALLY LIKE.

BUT I'VE ALREADY EXPERI-ENCED FOUR DEATHS THAT WERE NOT MAKE-BELIEVE...
HUFF
HUFF
REAL DEATH IS NOTHING LIKE THOSE GAMES.
HUFF
IT'S INCREDIBLY AGONIZING... I KNOW THAT WELL NOW.

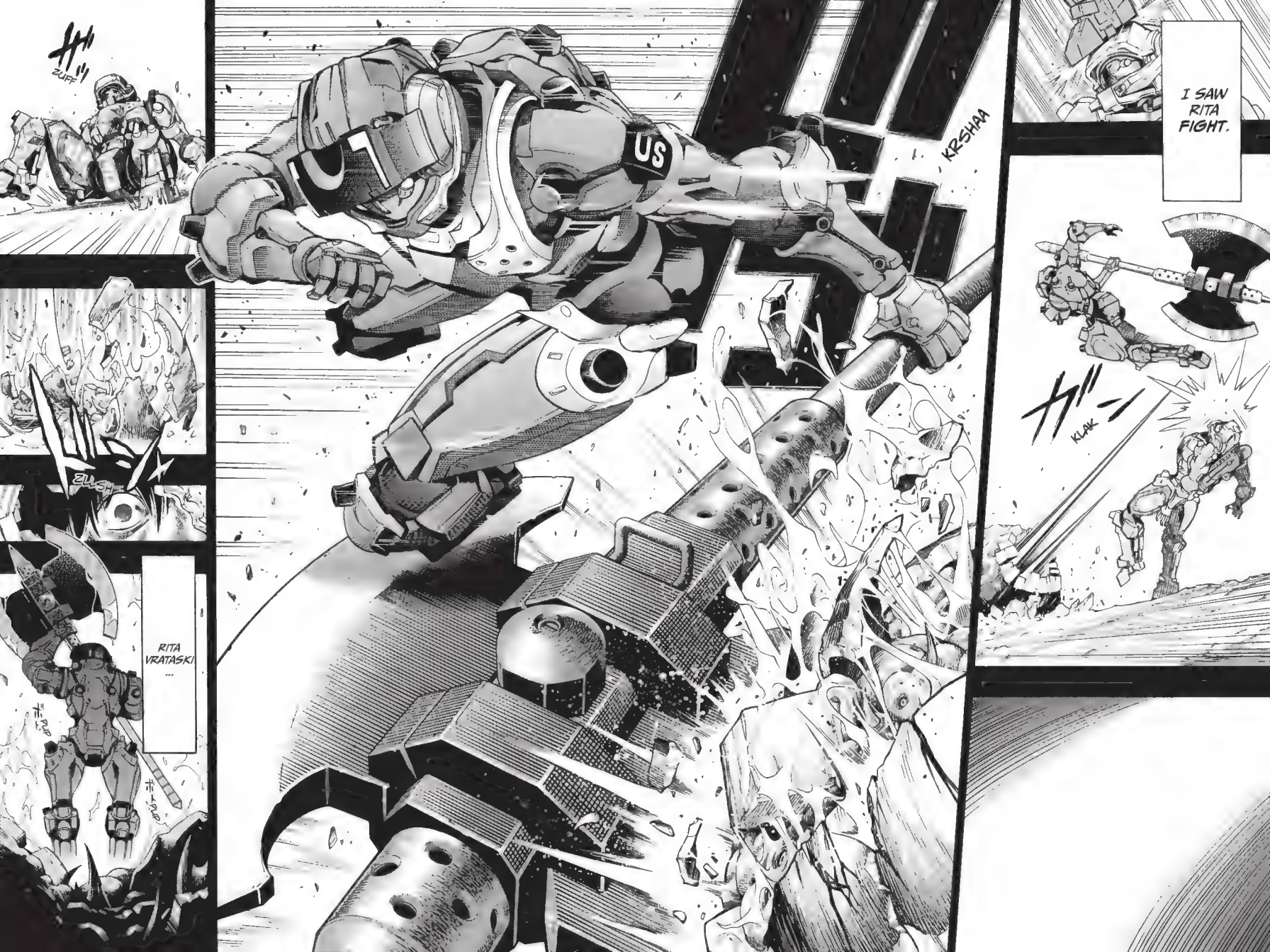
I CAN'T JUST KEEP DYING LIKE THIS...
FIVE!
FIVE!!
I'VE GOT NO INTENTION OF BECOMING A DEAD HERO OF A REAL WAR.
SIX!
SIX!!
TO STAY ALIVE ON THAT HELLISH BATTLEFIELD.
MY GOAL IS SIMPLE.
...
HEY, KEIJI...
HOW CAN I FIGHT AGAINST THOSE TERRIFYING MIMICS...?
BUT... HOW WILL I DO THAT...?

RITA...! THE STRONGEST JACKET SOLDIER...
RITA VRATASKI.
THAT'S HER.
THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES.
LOOK OVER THERE.

NO, RITA'S NO POSTER GIRL...
SO SHE'S THE POSTER GIRL LEADING THE UNIT, HUH.


BUT HOW DO I KNOW THAT...?
...?

HUFF
HUFF
MY FIRST DEATH...
THAT'S RIGHT...
GSH
GSH
GSH
ZSH...
ZSH...
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A DREAM AT FIRST, BUT...
BEEP
!
Warning
AAAAH!
ZWOOSH
BOOSH
AT THAT MOMENT, I...
VSH
GWOO...


ZUFF
ZLUSH
RITA VRATASKI ...
PLUP
PLUP
US
KRSHAA
I SAW RITA FIGHT.
KLAK

SHE WORE A BLAZING RED JACKET AND HELD A HUGE BATTLE AXE.
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WANTIN' TO KNOW.
IS IT TRUE THE GREEN TEA THEY SERVE IN JAPAN AT THE END OF YOUR MEAL... COMES FREE?

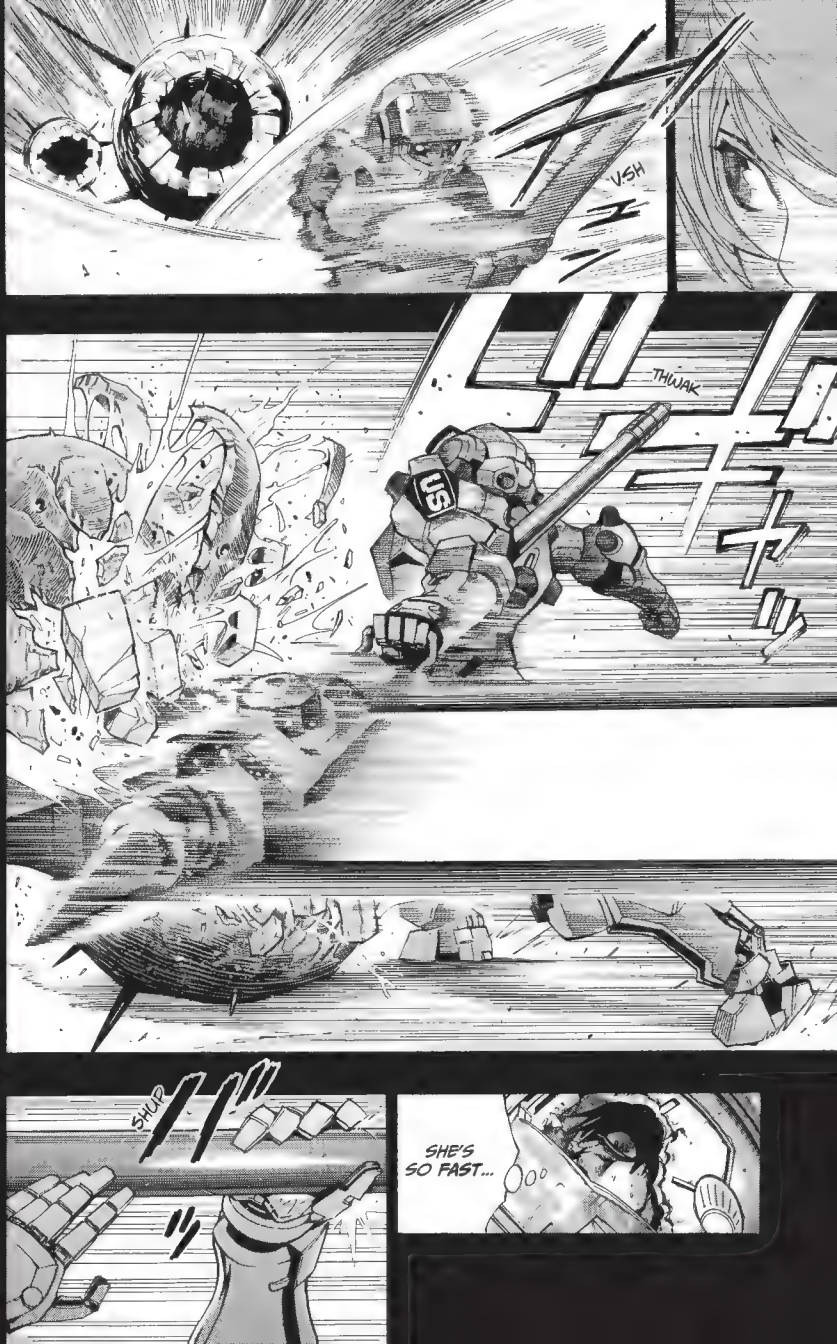
WH-WHAT...
GURGH
G-GREEN TEA...?
I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF IN TROUBLE FOR BELIEVING EVERYTHING I READ...
I THOUGHT I'D PLAY IT SAFE AND ASK A LOCAL.
SWAL-LOW YOUR SPIT...
...!
KOFF
JAPAN GF BLOOD TYPE O
KEIJI KIRIYA 0163863175
TAKE A NICE DEEP BREATH. THAT'S RIGHT...
KIRIYA... KEIJI KIRIYA, HUH.
KADOOM
YEAH.
YOU'RE GONNA DIE.
RATATA
DAMN ...
...
I'M RITA VRATASKI...
...
AM I GOING TO DIE...?
KRBOOOM

KEIJI.
I'LL STAY WITH YOU UNTIL YOU DIE.

SO THERE'S NO NEED TO FIGHT IT. RELAX. LET GO.
WHEN YOU DIE, I'M GONNA TAKE YOUR JACKET'S BATTERY.
HAHA... KOFF! THAT'S COLD.
ZZT.
CALAMITY DOG, THIS IS CHIEF BREEDER.
RRMB
RRMB
RRMB
I READ YOU.
ALPHA SERVER AND VICINITY UNDER CONTROL.
TIME TO PICK UP THAT PIZZA.
ROGER!
SHF
PIZZA ...?
KIWEEEE
FWEEEE

KRDOOOO...
...OOOM
...
SHWEE
THEY'RE COMING.
ZZZT
ZZZT
DOOM2

MIMICS...!!
GWOOSH
ZUFF
KEIJI.
STAY HERE.
ZSSSH
GWOO-
OOO


V-SH
THWAK
SHUP
SHE'S SO FAST...

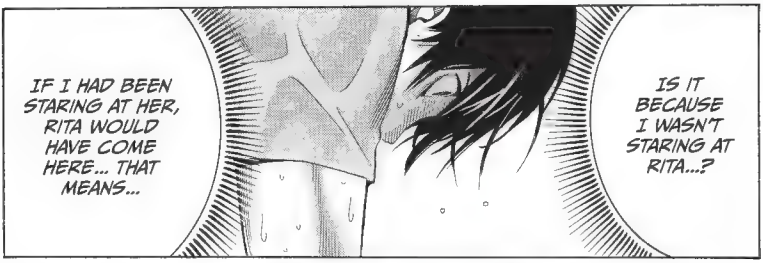
KSH
H
R
A
A
A
A
AND STRONG TOO...
KCH
KCH

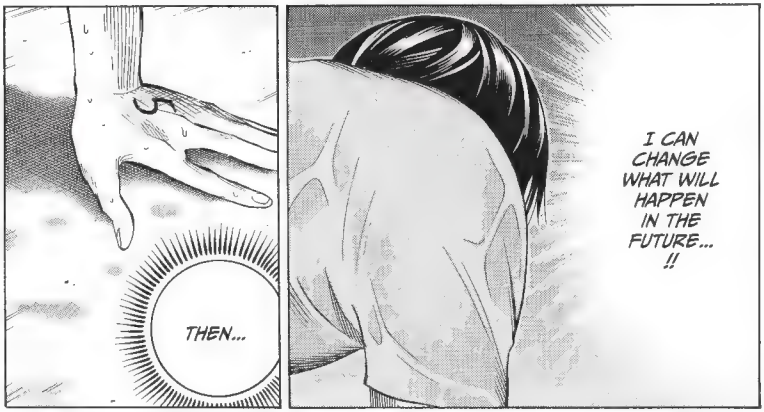
ZUUUSH
...STOOD BEFORE ME.
AN INVINCIBLE SOLDIER...
DASH
KRCHK
KEIJI?!
!
ZUFF
I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE ONE DOWN WITH ME...
PANT
PANT
I'M GONNA DIE ANYWAY.
I'M...
DAMN IT... I...

AAAARRRGH!
BOOSH
BOOSH
BOOM
NINETY-SIX!
NINETY-SIX!!
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I DIED...

THE BEST I CAN DO...
...IS TAKE DOWN ONE MIMIC BEFORE I DIE...
PANT
HUFF
HUFF
NO WONDER SHE'S SURVIVED ALL THOSE BATTLES.
RITA'S STRONG.
WHAT...?
TCH, SHE JUST CAME TO LOOK DOWN ON US.

DO I HAVE SOME-THING ON MY FACE?
YOU'VE BEEN STARING AT ME.
RITA SHOULD HAVE JOINED IN THE PT NEXT TO ME...
WHY...?
NINE-HUN-DRED!
NINE-HUN-DRED!!

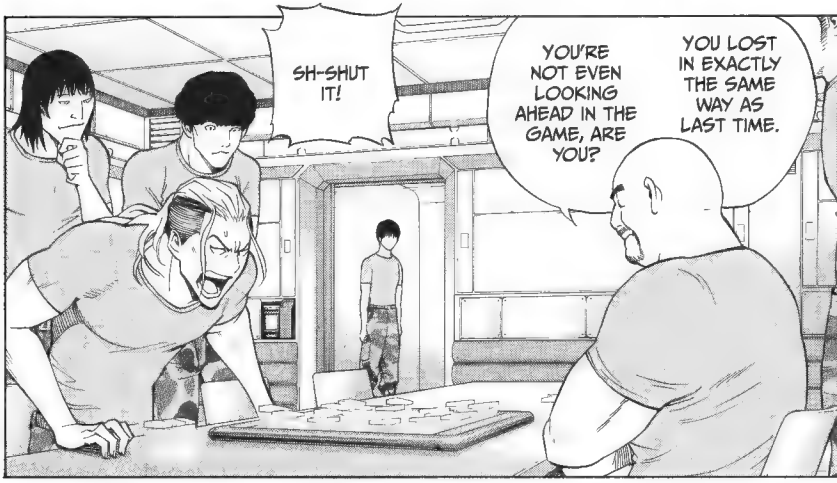

IF I HAD BEEN STARING AT HER, RITA WOULD HAVE COME HERE... THAT MEANS...
IS IT BECAUSE I WASN'T STARING AT RITA...?


THEN...
I CAN CHANGE WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE... !!

EVEN IF MY ODDS OF STAYING ALIVE ARE 0.01% RIGHT NOW, I CAN TURN THAT INTO 0.1% THE NEXT TIME...
AND ONE DAY, I MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO...!
THEY KEPT US DOING PT FOR THREE HOURS STRAIGHT.
NEXT TIME, I'LL STARE AT RITA SO IT'LL END IN AN HOUR.
PHEW!
I'M TIRED...
...I HAVE A CHANCE!!

WHAT ?!
HOW DO I GET STRONGER ...?

EVEN THOUGH I CAN KEEP MY MEMORIES IN THIS TIME LOOP, THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT I'M STILL A ROOKIE.
NEXT TIME ...?


SH-SHUT IT!
YOU'RE NOT EVEN LOOKING AHEAD IN THE GAME, ARE YOU?
YOU LOST IN EXACTLY THE SAME WAY AS LAST TIME.

...
...THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO WIN NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES THEY TRY.
WHEN AMATEURS DO THAT...
I PREFER TO RELY ON MY NATURAL INSTINCTS!!
SHUP

MAKING MOVES IN VARIOUS SITUATIONS!
READING YOUR OPPONENT'S MOVE!
THESE ARE ALL TECHNIQUES.
IT'S A TECHNIQUE ANYBODY CAN ACQUIRE IF THEY KEEP AT IT.
MOVING A PIECE...
KLIK
NO, MOVING MY BODY... READING AHEAD... IMPROVING MY JUDGMENT!
COMBAT SKILLS...!!
THAT'S WHAT I LACK... THAT'S WHAT I NEED TO IMPROVE!!
THAT'S IT!
CRAP!! I LOST AGAIN!
I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOU, SIR.

SARGE.
KIRIYA.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SERGEANT BARTOLOME FERRELL.
HE'S BEEN STATIONED AT THIS BASE LONGER THAN ANYONE, MAKING HIM THE MOST EXPERIENCED SOLDIER.
YOU MOVE OUT TOMORROW. GETTING COLD FEET?
IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S SURVIVED LONGER THAN ANYBODY!

WOULD YOU MIND IF I TRAINED WITH YOU?
YOU STILL KEEP UP WITH YOUR TRAINING, DON'T YOU, SARGE?
TRY TO.
IF ANYONE CAN HELP ME WITH MY TRAINING, HE CAN.
AND HE USED TO BE A DRILL INSTRUC-TOR TOO.
WHAT...?!
FORGET IT, IT'S POINTLESS.
...STRIKE DOWN YOUR ENEMY AND LEARN."
IT'S AN OLD SAMURAI SAYING THAT MEANS...
...?
YOU EVER HEARD OF THE EXPRESSION, KIRI-OBOERU?
OKAY, MAYBE SAYING IT'S POINTLESS IS TOO EXTREME...

...
TSUKAHARA BOKUDEN, MIYAMOTO MUSASHI...
MASTER SWORDSMEN WHO KILLED UNCOUNTABLE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE IN UNCOUNTABLE NUMBERS OF BATTLES.
THEY JUST KEPT KILLING...
THE ONLY WAY TO LEARN HOW TO DO THAT IS TO ACTUALLY EXPERIENCE IT IN BATTLE.
THE GUYS WHO SURVIVE THE BATTLE WILL LEARN A THING OR TWO FROM IT...
SO...
AN UNCOUNTABLE NUMBER OF BATTLES...
THAT'S PERFECT FOR ME.
H...
HEY...

HM?
WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING ABOUT?
...
SORRY.
SHEESH... IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY.
BUT...
...IF I GAIN EXPERIENCE ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND PERFECT THOSE SKILLS IN TRAINING...
YEAH...
I'M IN A TIME LOOP, SO I CAN TRAIN MYSELF AND EXPERIENCE THE ACTUAL BATTLE AGAIN AND AGAIN...

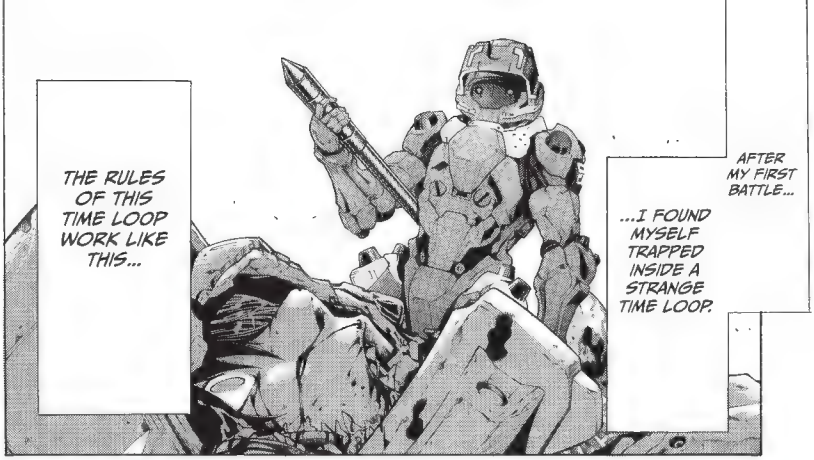
AND ONE DAY I WILL RISE TO THE LEVEL OF RITA AND THOSE MASTER SWORDSMEN!
I HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD TO KIRI-OBOERU..!!

SIGH.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM BUT WHAT'S WITH THE LOOK IN HIS EYES?
...
IN FULL BATTLE DRESS?
SHFF...
MEET BACK HERE IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.
SUIT UP IN FIRST-TIER GEAR.

SIR, YES SIR!!
A JACKET JOCKEY CAN'T PRACTICE WITHOUT HIS EQUIPMENT, CAN HE?!
NOW GO SUIT UP!

A window of opportunity might present itself in tomorrow's battle. The odds of that happening might be 0.1 percent, or even 0.01 percent, but if I could improve my combat skills even the slightest bit—if that window were to open even a crack—I'd find a way to force it open wide. If I could train to jump every hurdle this little track meet of death threw at me, maybe someday I'd wake up in a world with a tomorrow.

#3 Loop



RULE 4.

"MY MEMORIES OF WHAT HAPPENED WILL REMAIN."

RULE 3.

"I CANNOT ESCAPE."

RULE 2.

"RULE 1 APPLIES NO MATTER WHERE AND HOW I DIE."

RULE 1.

"WHEN I DIE, I RETURN TO THE MORNING OF THE DAY BEFORE THE BATTLE."

I WAS JUST A YOUNG SOLDIER... A MEDIOCRE ONE AT THAT...
BUT I KEPT WAKING UP NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I DIED.
...I HAVE TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO NOT DIE. I HAVE TO IMPROVE MY BATTLE SKILLS.
IN ORDER TO ESCAPE THIS TIME LOOP...

Loop 12

HUFF!
KWEEE
HUFF!
KWEEE
GSH
GSH

KRAKOOM

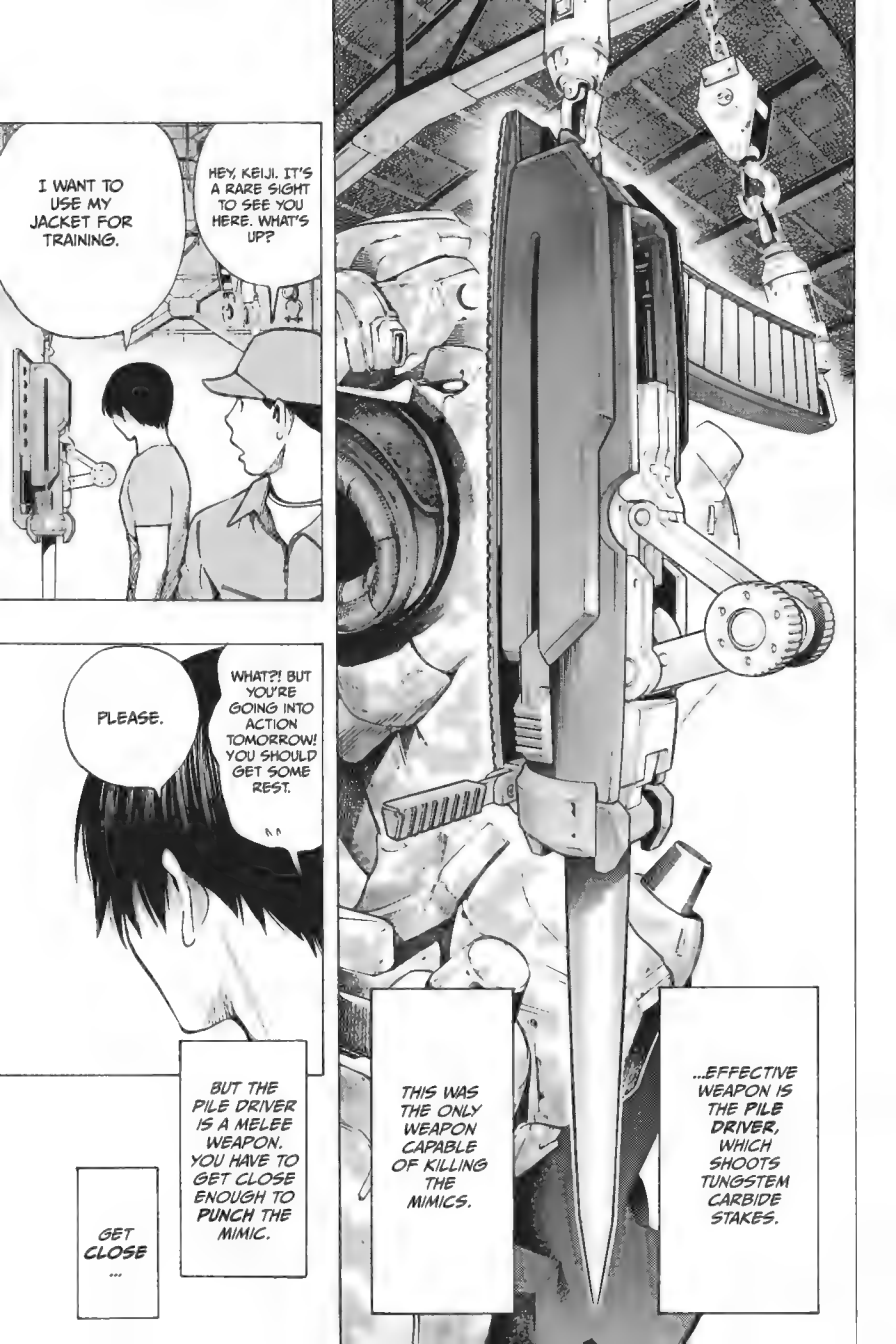
KWEE
KWEE
KWEE
KWEE
YOU WANNA GET YOUR-SELF KILLED ?!
YOU THERE!! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
VSH
KWEE
KWEE
WH-WHAT THE HELL...?!
ZSSH
!

I RUN...
KWEE
THIS IS MORE THAN...
...GETTING MYSELF KILLED!!
KWEE
ZSSSH
I RUN...
AND I KEEP RUNNING.
MY TRAINING WITH THE SARGE BEGAN WITH WALKING IN THE JACKET.
!
TURN THE AUTO-BALANCER OFF FIRST.
KWEE
KWEE

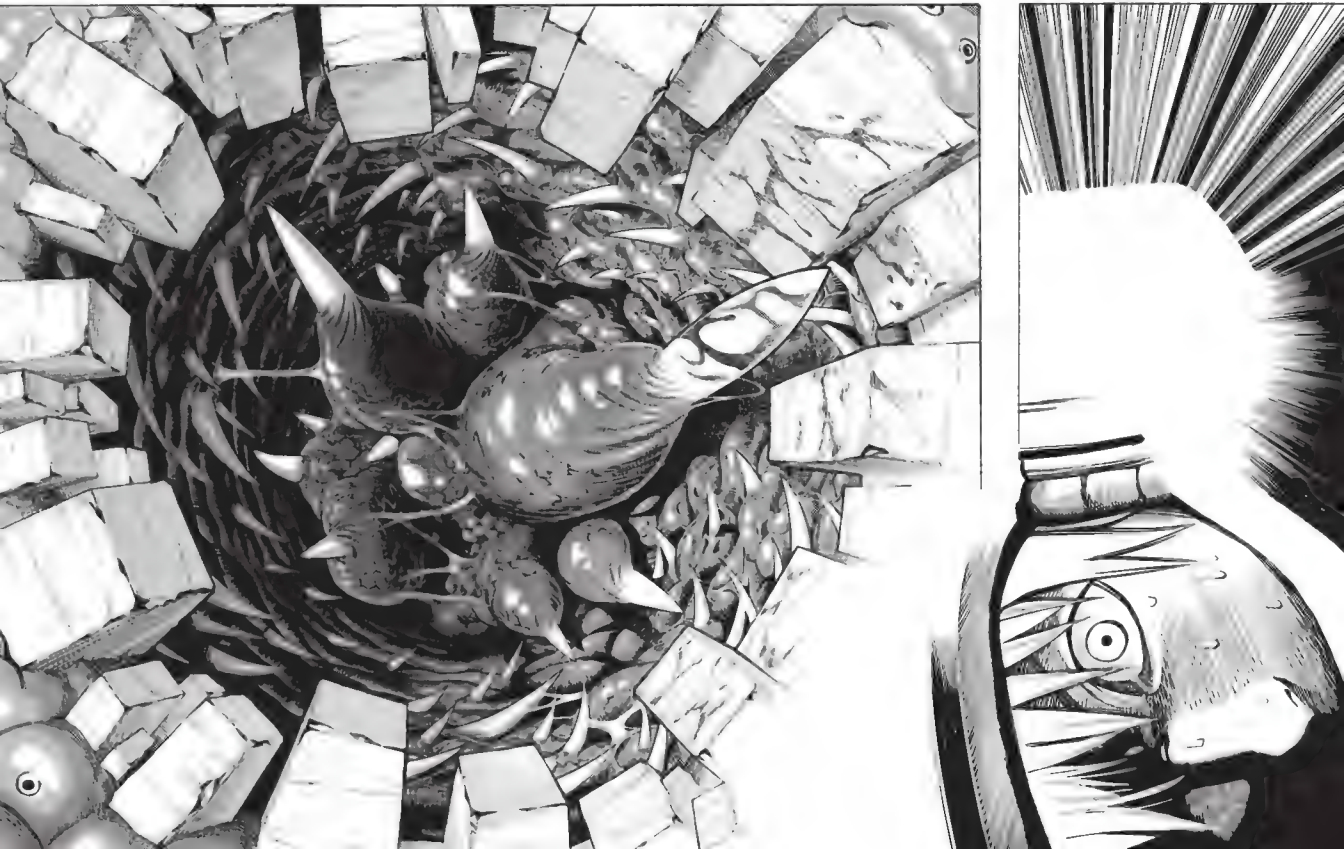
THAT FRACTION OF A SECOND CAN MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH ON THE BATTLEFIELD.
KWEE
KWEE
KWEE
THE AUTO-BALANCER SLOWS YOUR MOVEMENTS DOWN BY A FRACTION OF A SECOND.
BUT I WON'T BE ABLE TO AUTOMATICALLY STAY UPRIGHT IF I DO THAT...
KWEE
AND I DIED SEVEN TIMES...
BOOSH
KWEE
GSH
GSH
KWEE
I RAN THROUGH THE BATTLE-FIELD...
KWEE
MY TWELFTH LOOP..
NOW I CAN RUN THROUGH THE BATTLE-FIELD ANY WAY I WANT.
KWEE
GSH, GSH

KERCH
HUFF!
HUFF!
KERCH
KERCH
...
KCH
KCH
KCH
KCH
ZSSH
URGH!
BOOSH
BOOSH
BOOSH
BOOSH
!
NEXT...
...I MUST LEARN TO ATTACK!!

FIRST, THERE'S THE 20MM RIFLE.
JACKET SOLDIERS ARE ISSUED SEVERAL WEAPONS.
BUT IT'S NOT EXACTLY AN EFFECTIVE WEAPON AGAINST THE MIMICS.
RATATATATATATA
IT'S POWERFUL ENOUGH TO TURN A HUMAN INTO A SCRAP OF MEAT.
THE ONLY ...
THE SAME GOES FOR THE ROCKET LAUNCHERS AND FUEL-AIR GRENADES.


I WANT TO USE MY JACKET FOR TRAINING.
HEY, KEIJI. IT'S A RARE SIGHT TO SEE YOU HERE. WHAT'S UP?
PLEASE.
WHAT?! BUT YOU'RE GOING INTO ACTION TOMORROW! YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST.
BUT THE PILE DRIVER IS A MELEE WEAPON. YOU HAVE TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO PUNCH THE MIMIC.
GET CLOSE ...
THIS WAS THE ONLY WEAPON CAPABLE OF KILLING THE MIMICS.
...EFFECTIVE WEAPON IS THE PILE DRIVER, WHICH SHOOTS TUNGSTEM CARBIDE STAKES.

KRDOOM...
BLAM
ドォオ..
ドッ
...TO THOSE TERRIFY-ING MIMICS...
I'LL NEED TO GET REAL CLOSE...
DOOM
ドドド
DAT DAT DAT
ダダダ
GSH
D-DOOM
ドドドォーン
GSH
ZWUSH
I JUST NEED TO GET CLOSE AND...
IT STILL HASN'T NOTICED ME!
I CAN DO IT!
THERE'S ONE.
ZUSH
BOOSH



KCH
P-PILE...
AIM...
KRAK
KRAK
HAH
...!!

DAMN IT!!
BAM
WH-WHAT'S WRONG, KEIJI?
I HAVE TO BE CALM.
NO FEAR. I CAN'T BE AFRAID ...
...OF THE MIMICS. I CAN'T FEAR DEATH!!
17
...IS ON MY SIDE!!
15
DEATH...

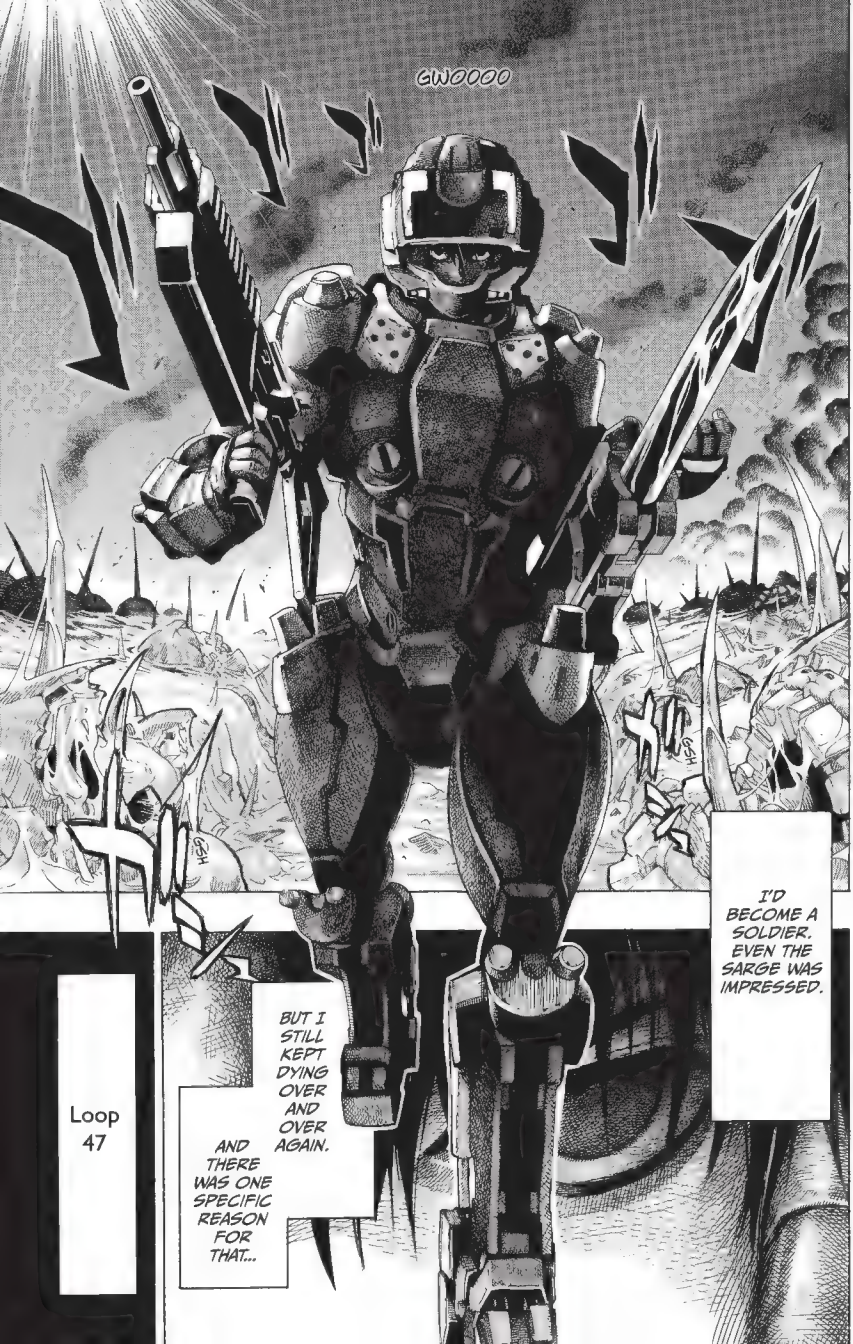
21
VSSH
KWEE
AAA
A...
KWEE
GSH
VSSH
A
A
A
A
A
!!
SHAF
SHAK
SHAF
AAARGH!!

BEAM
HUFF
HUFF
G-GOT IT!!
KCH
KCCH
BOOSH

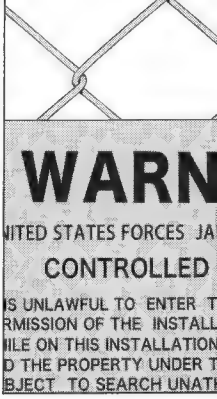
I KILLED... A MIMIC!
FOR THE FIRST TIME!
AND I DIDN'T DIE WHILE DOING IT!
THAT'S...
...ONE DOWN!!
ZSH
HUFF
HUFF
JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE, MIMICS!
I'LL GROW STRONGER AND STRONGER !!

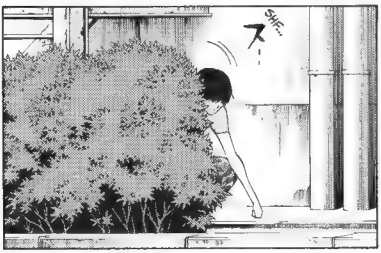
TATATA
RATATA
DAK
DAK
DAK
D...
RATATA
YONA-
BARU!!
D-
DAMN
IT!!
KCH
DAK
RATATA
SPLUB
!
AAAH!!
KCH
KLAK
HUH?! IT
JAMMED!

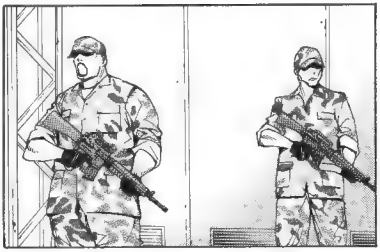
BEAM
BEAM
BEAM
SHUP
ARE YOU OKAY, YONABARU?
K-KEIJI, THAT YOU?
Y-YEAH.
GSH
GSH
BE CARE-FUL.
THERE'S MORE COMING FROM THE EAST!
WHEN AND HOW DID HE TRAIN...?
I NEVER KNEW KIRIYA WAS THAT GOOD.
YEAH, I DON'T GET HIM...!


GWOOOO
I'D BECOME A SOLDIER. EVEN THE SARGE WAS IMPRESSED.
BUT I STILL KEPT DYING OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
AND THERE WAS ONE SPECIFIC REASON FOR THAT...
Loop 47

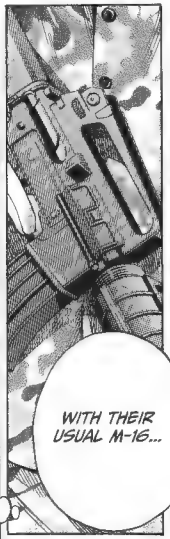
5


WARN
ITED STATES FORCES JA
CONTROLLED
S UNLAWFUL TO ENTER T
RMISSION OF THE INSTALL
ILE ON THIS INSTALLATION
D THE PROPERTY UNDER T
BJECT TO SEARCH UNATH


SHE...

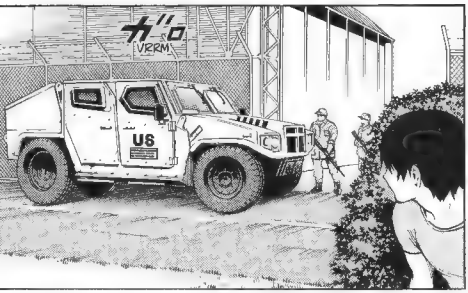


5
IT SHOULD BE IN THERE.


WITH THEIR USUAL M-16...

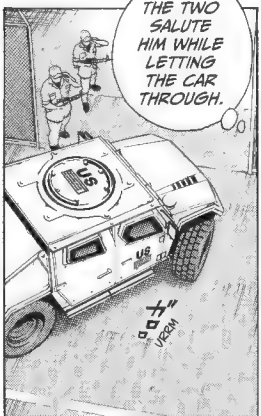
TWO GUARDS... SAME AS USUAL...

THE PILE DRIVER HAS ONE MAJOR DRAWBACK. IT ONLY HAS TWENTY ROUNDS.
47
TEN-TWENTY-NINE... THE COMPANY COMMANDER SHOULD ARRIVE IN HIS CAR SOON.
THAT MEANS NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY, I CAN ONLY KILL TWENTY MIMICS.


VRRM
US

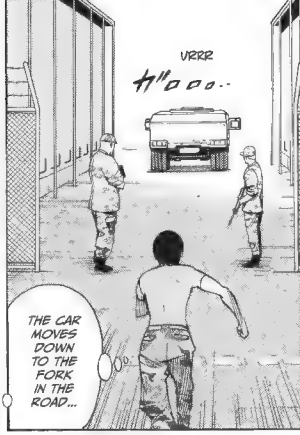
I DIED ALL THOSE TIMES BECAUSE I WAS OUT OF AMMO...
I NEED A WEAPON THAT DOESN'T RUN OUT OF CHARGES.
AND IN ORDER TO DO THAT, I MUST SEE THE PERSON INSIDE THAT WARE-HOUSE...
HE'S HERE...
VROOM...

ZSH
THAT'S WHEN I CAN START WALKING.


THE TWO SALUTE HIM WHILE LETTING THE CAR THROUGH.
US
VRRM

SKREE
!
THE GUARDS LOOK OVER AT THE CAR FOR A MOMENT.

...AND THE CLEANING LADY POPS OUT AT THE CORNER.


VRRR
THE CAR MOVES DOWN TO THE FORK IN THE ROAD...

SHA
AND I QUICKLY SLIP PAST THEM.

...BUT HE CAN'T SEE ME BECAUSE I'M HIDDEN BY THE BIG GUY'S BODY...

ONE OF THEM WILL TURN THIS WAY...

SHF
INFILTRATION COMPLETE!!
THERE SHE IS.
KCH
KCH
EEEK!
HELLO.
KLANK!

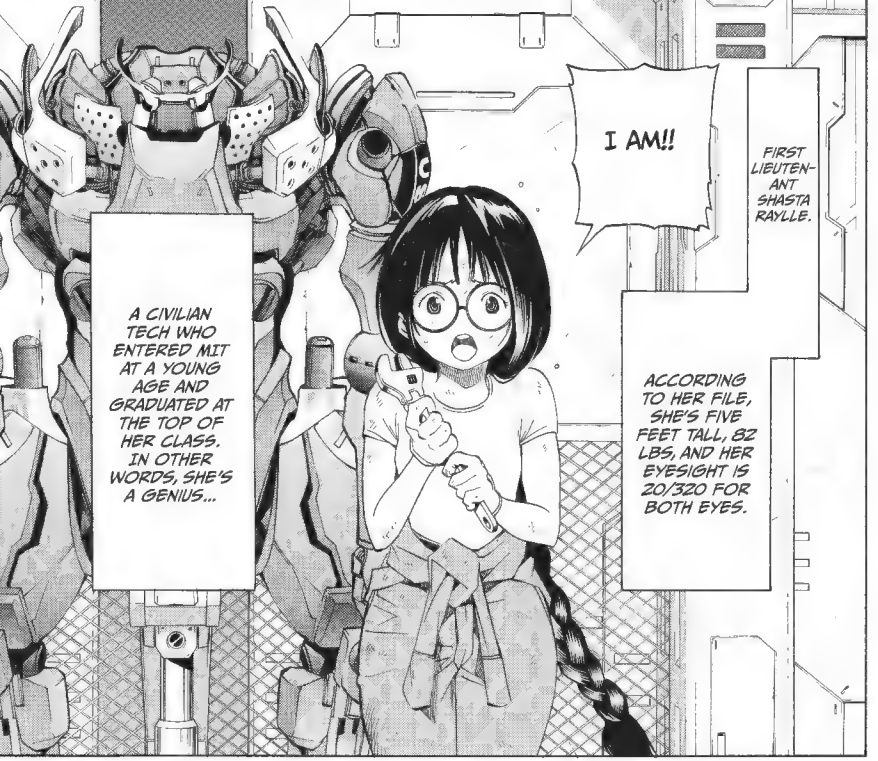
OWWW...
MY GLASSES... MY GLASSES...!!
GOSH
ごちん
OW!
SORRY TO SURPRISE YOU...
TH-THANK YOU.
WH-WHOEVER YOU ARE.
I'M KEIJI KIRIYA.
TH-THANK YOU...
I'M SHASTA RAYLLE.
I KNOW. I CAME TO SEE YOU.
HUH?!
Shasta Raylle

M-ME?!
EH, UMM...
I'M FLATTERED, BUT I'M AFRAID I CAN'T...
NO... NOT THAT...
I'D LIKE YOU TO MAKE ME ONE OF THOSE.
WHAT? ONE OF THOSE...?
THE SAME BATTLE AXE AS RITA'S!

Fuck that.
Running out of charges had killed me plenty of times.
Another dead end.
The only way to avoid it was to find a melee weapon that didn't run out of ammo.

#4 Battle Axe

RITA'S BATTLE AXE...?
RIGHT. I WANT YOU TO MAKE ME THE SAME TH—
N-NO!
THIS IS TOO OUT OF THE BLUE!
AND I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW WITH REPAIRS.
IS THAT SO?

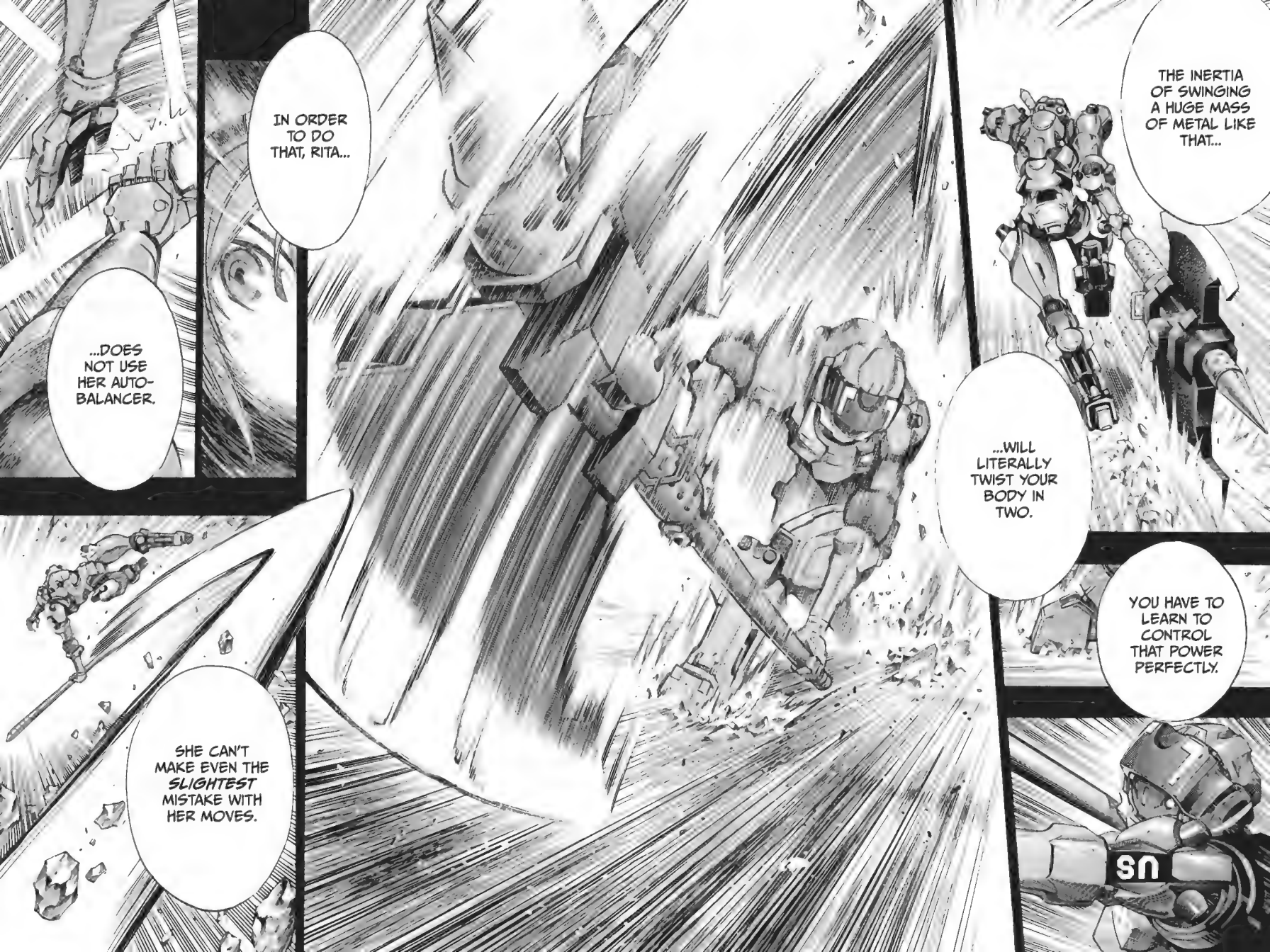

I AM!!
FIRST LIEUTENANT SHASTA RAYLLE.
ACCORDING TO HER FILE, SHE'S FIVE FEET TALL, 82 LBS, AND HER EYESIGHT IS 20/320 FOR BOTH EYES.
A CIVILIAN TECH WHO ENTERED MIT AT A YOUNG AGE AND GRADUATED AT THE TOP OF HER CLASS. IN OTHER WORDS, SHE'S A GENIUS...

REPAIRS, HUH?
SHE...
?

IT SURE IS HARD TO BELIEVE LOOKING AT HER NOW THOUGH...
AND SHE'S RITA VRATASKI'S PERSONAL TECH.

A CUSTOM EXTERNAL MEMORY UNIT CHIP.
YOU'RE IN NEED OF ONE, AREN'T YOU?
!!
GIMME!
ｽﾞｻｯ
HEY!
...
HOW'D YOU GET THAT?!
ぴょん
HOP
I'M BEG-GING YOU!
PLEASE ?!
I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU...

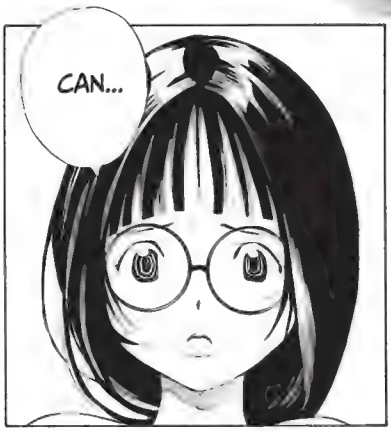
...
BUT I WANT THE BATTLE AXE FOR IT.
RITA'S THE ONLY PERSON AROUND WHO CAN WIELD SUCH A WEAPON.
...TRYING TO IMITATE RITA WILL ONLY GET YOU HURT.
UM... I DON'T WANT TO BE RUDE, BUT...
THAT BATTLE AXE WEIGHS 200 KILOGRAMS.


IN ORDER TO DO THAT, RITA...
...DOES NOT USE HER AUTO-BALANCER.
SHE CAN'T MAKE EVEN THE *SLIGHTEST* MISTAKE WITH HER MOVES.
THE INERTIA OF SWINGING A HUGE MASS OF METAL LIKE THAT...
...WILL LITERALLY TWIST YOUR BODY IN TWO.
YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO CONTROL THAT POWER PERFECTLY.

AND I DON'T MEAN SHE TURNS THE AUTO-BALANCER OFF. HER JACKET ISN'T EQUIPPED WITH ONE.
EVEN IN THAT ELITE SQUAD, RITA'S THE ONLY PERSON WHO DOES THAT...
SHE'S NO ORDINARY SOLDIER.

REMOVING THE AUTO-BALANCER IS A GOOD IDEA...
WHY CARRY AROUND THE EXTRA WEIGHT?
I QUIT USING AN AUTO-BALANCER A *LONG TIME* AGO TOO.
I SEE...
!!
SO YOU THINK... YOU'RE THE NEXT RITA?!
RITA IS...
RITA'S ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK SHE IS...
YOU KNOW WHAT RITA SAID... THE FIRST TIME I MET HER...?

I'M GLAD I LIVE IN A WORLD...
...FULL OF WAR.


CAN...

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID...

CAN YOU...
...SAY THE SAME?

YEAH, I KNOW.
I THINK RITA IS A...
I MEAN IT...
REALLY...
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M SCARED OF RITA OR ANYTHING!
B-BUT, BUT...
OH...

BUT RITA VRATASKI ISN'T SO COLD-HEARTED.

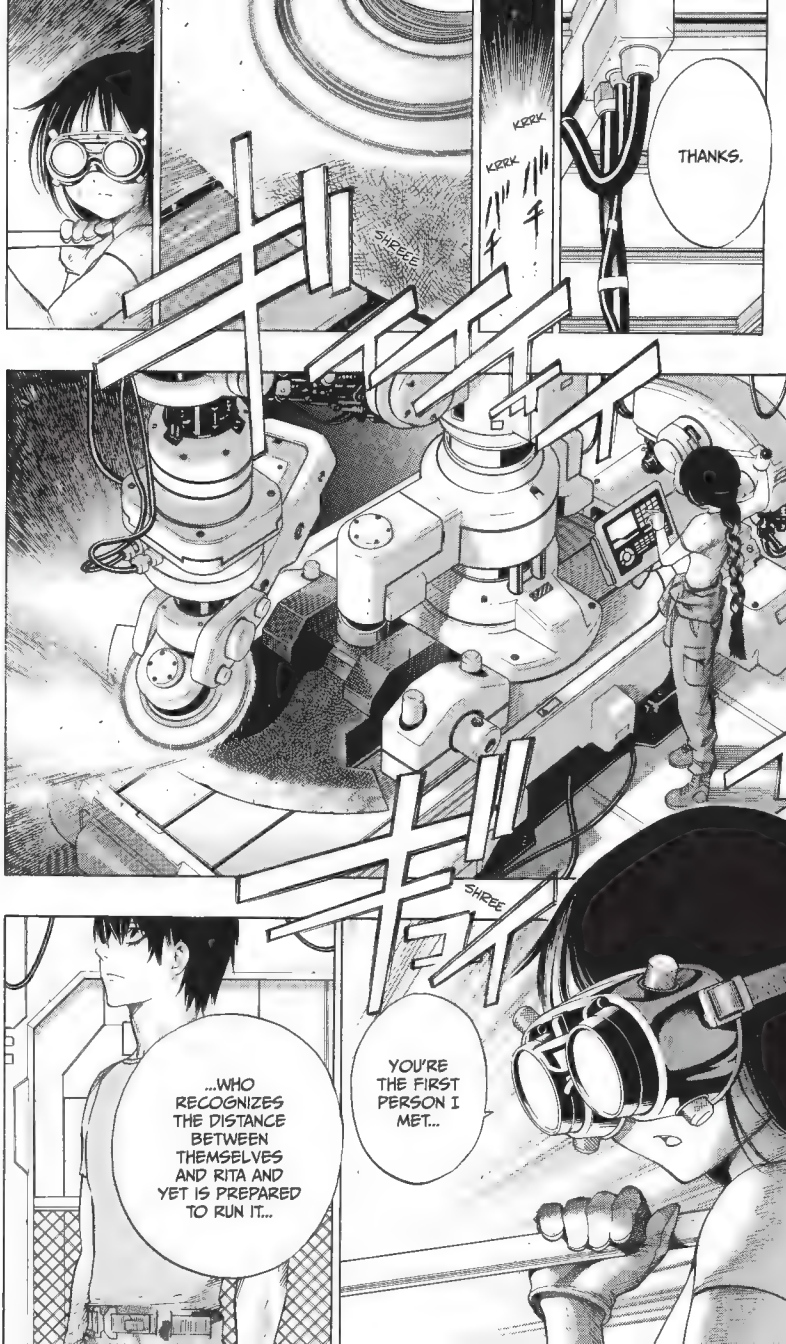
MANY PEOPLE MISUNDERSTAND HER...
THAT'S THE FULL METAL BITCH.
AT'S HER.
KEIJI.
I'LL STAY WITH YOU UNTIL YOU DIE.

I DON'T WANT THE BATTLE AXE JUST BECAUSE RITA USES ONE.
PLUS...

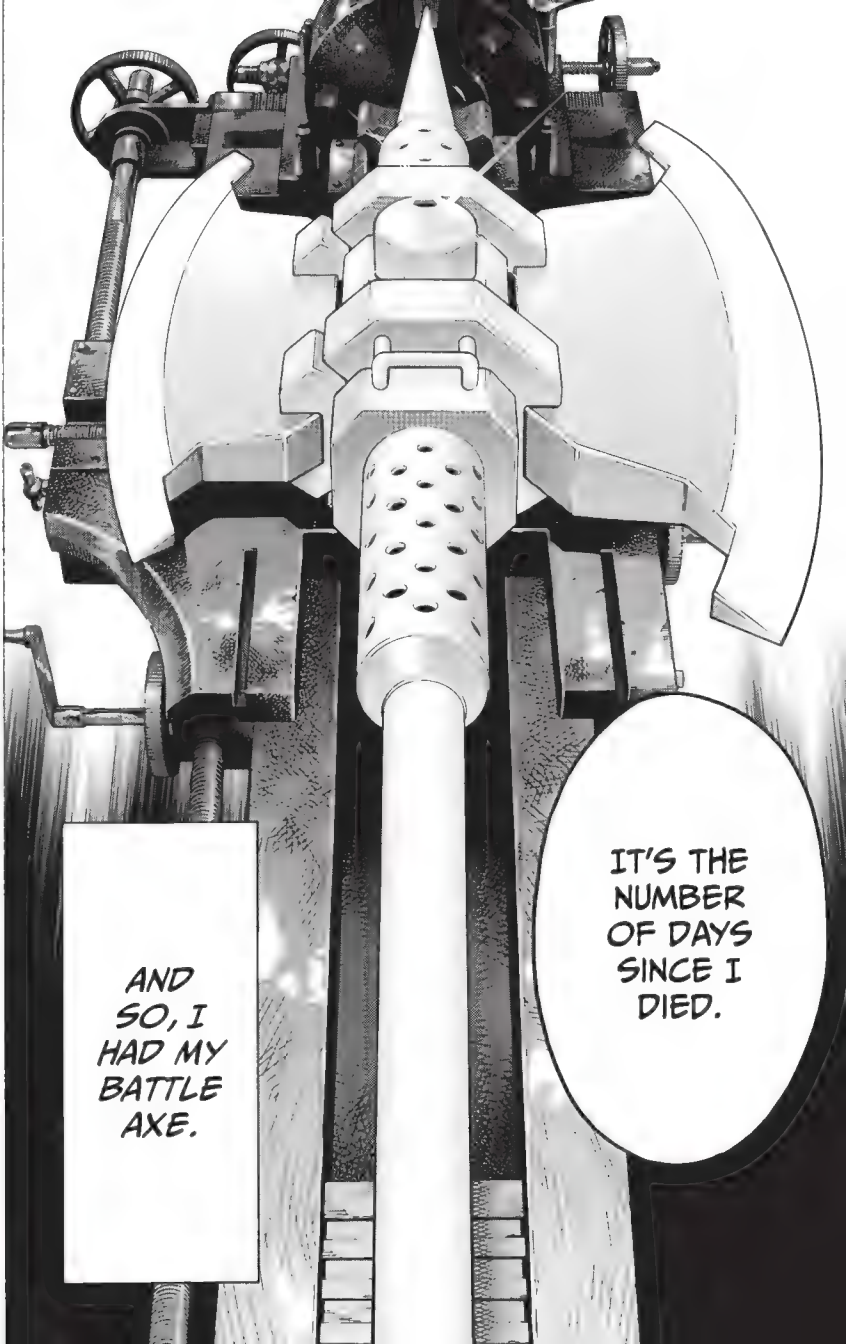
DOESN'T RUN OUT OF AMMO...?
I JUST NEED A WEAPON THAT DOESN'T RUN OUT OF AMMO.
THE PILE DRIVER ONLY HAS TWENTY ROUNDS...
SPEAR... CUTLASS ...?
IT CAN BE A SPEAR OR A CUTLASS FOR ALL I CARE.
...
I JUST NEED A WEAPON THAT WILL KEEP ME ALIVE ON THE BATTLEFIELD!

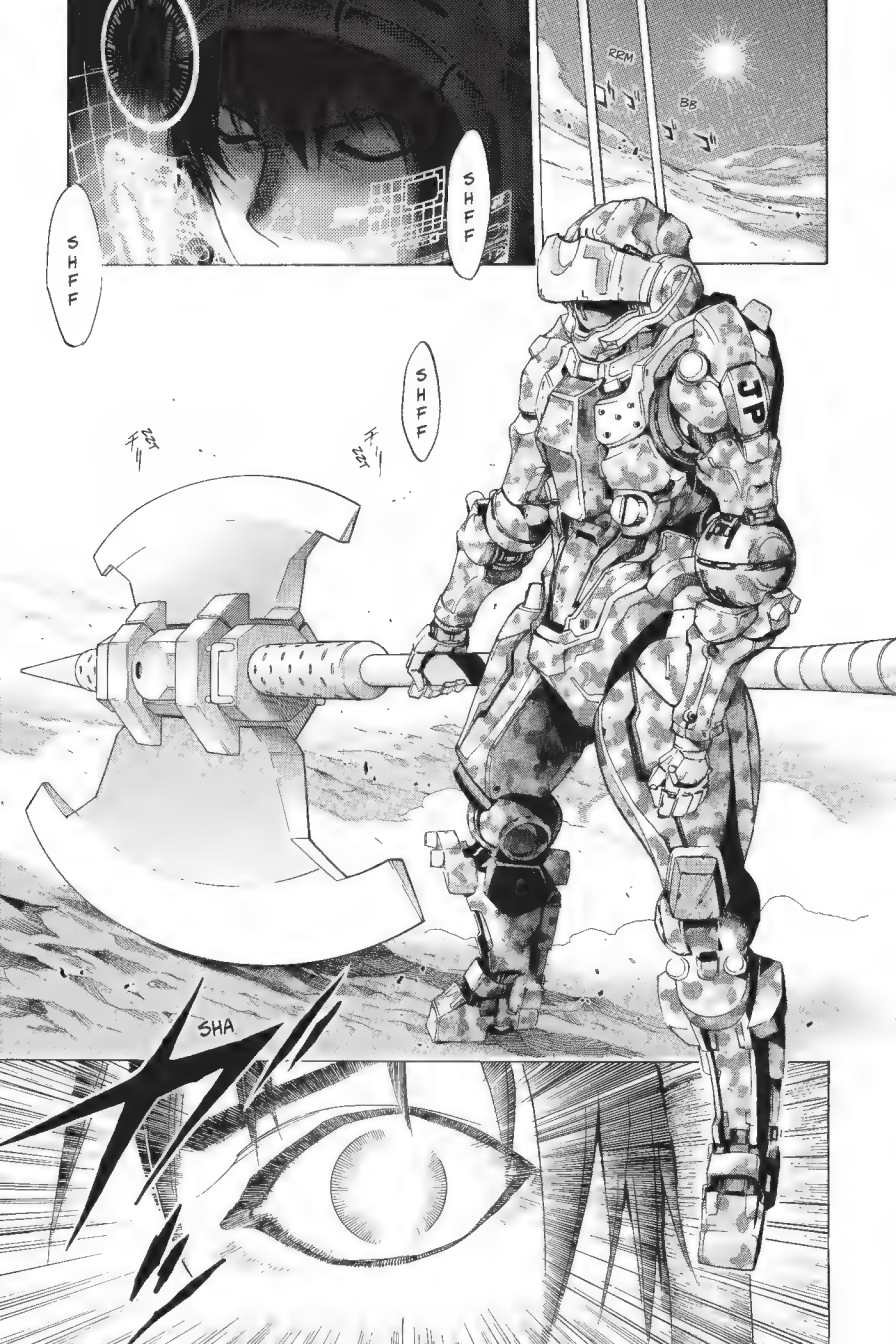
HE'S...
PLEASE.
YOU'RE AN UNUSUAL PERSON...
I FEEL LIKE... RITA SAID... THE SAME THING TO ME IN THE PAST...

ANY COMPARISON WITH THE VALKYRIE IS HIGH PRAISE.
IT'S NOT AN EASY WEAPON TO USE.
I HAVE A LOT OF TIME TO PRACTICE.
DON'T WORRY...
I'LL...
...TAKE THIS THEN!
SHIP
I HAVE SOME SPARE STEEL...
I'LL MAKE THE WEAPON FOR YOU RIGHT NOW!
OKAY.
TMP


KRRK
KRRK
SHEEE
THANKS.
SHEEE
YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON I MET...
...WHO RECOGNIZES THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND RITA AND YET IS PREPARED TO RUN IT...

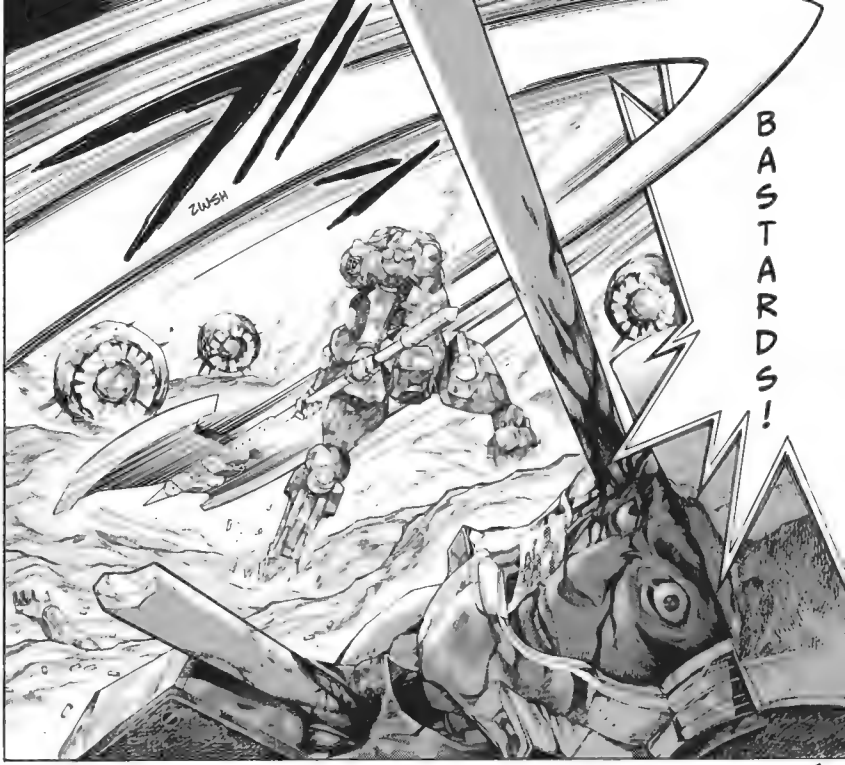
WHAT?
WHY DO YOU HAVE THE NUMBER FORTY-SEVEN WRITTEN ON YOUR HAND?
SHWEEE
AND... I'VE BEEN WANTING TO ASK YOU...
YOU KNOW HOW PEOPLE CROSS OFF DAYS ON A CALENDAR? IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
47
THIS IS... WELL...
KWEEE
IF I HAVE TO SAY...
NO...
LIKE THE DAYS UNTIL YOUR GIRL-FRIEND'S BIRTHDAY ...?
IF IT'S IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO WRITE ON YOUR HAND, IT MUST BE SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT TO FORGET.
EEE


IT'S THE NUMBER OF DAYS SINCE I DIED.
AND SO, I HAD MY BATTLE AXE.

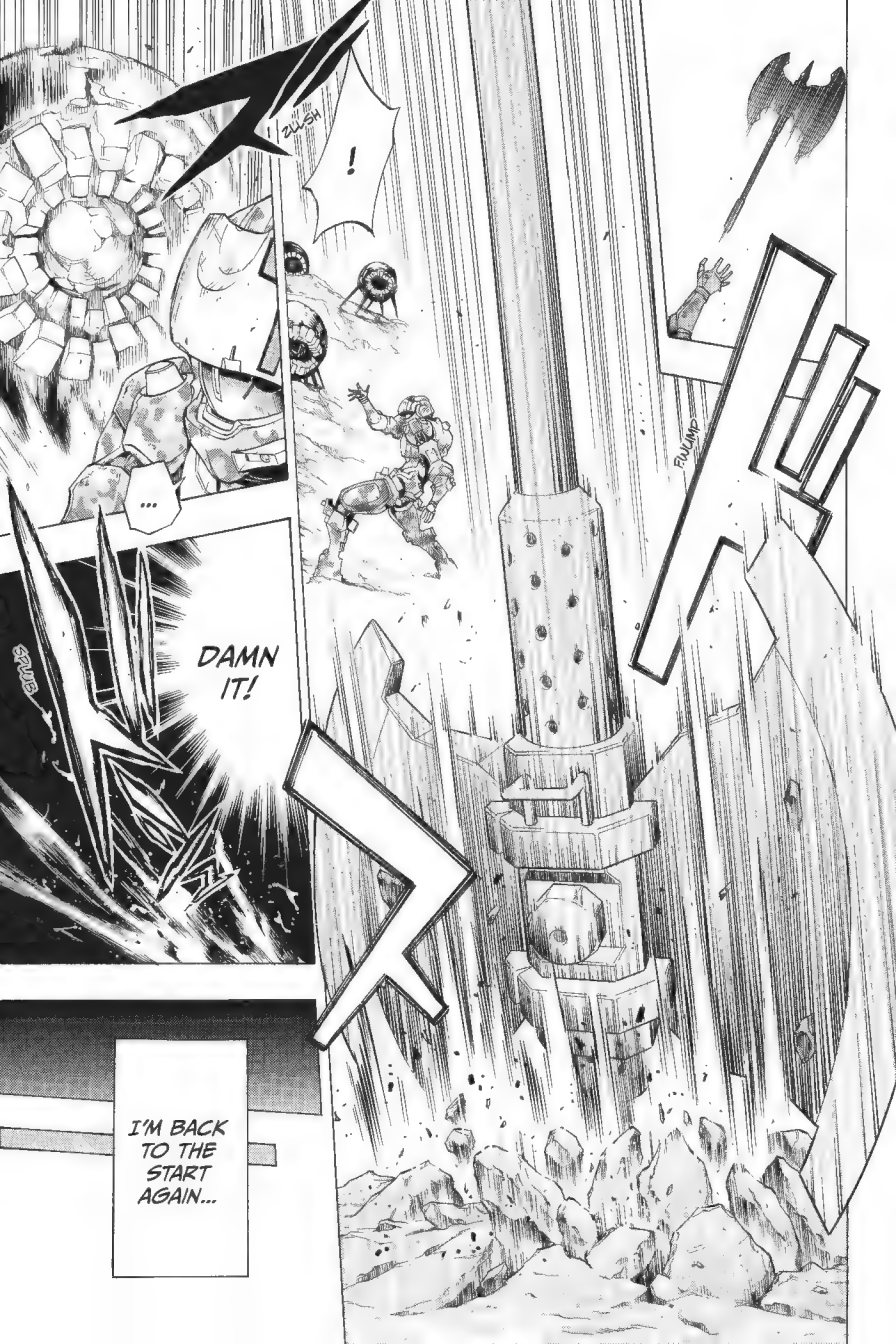

RRM
BB
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
JP
SHA

It took something massive
to shatter a Mimic
endoskeleton in one hit.
That it could kill me
in the process was
beside the point.

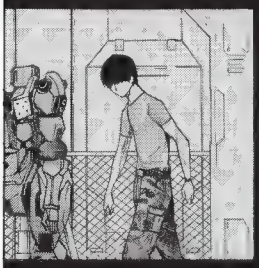
#5 Schedule


ZWSH
BASTARDS!

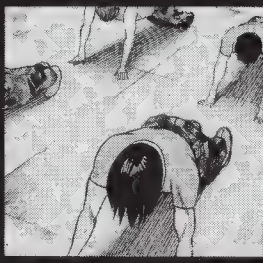
KRRK
UGH...
KRRK
GWOO
URGH... GURGH...


ZUUSH
!
...
DAMN IT!
SAUS
FWUMP
I'M BACK TO THE START AGAIN...

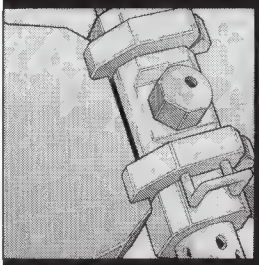
THIS IS MY SCHEDULE FOR ONE DAY.



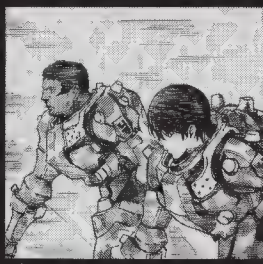
0600	Wake up after dying. Ignore Yonabaru.
0610	Steal silicon chip from armory.
0630	Eat breakfast.
0730	Train with emphasis on correcting mistakes from previous battle.



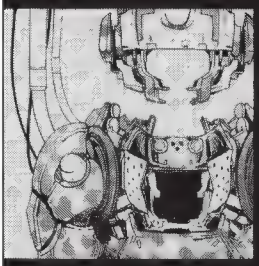
0900	Mental training during PT.



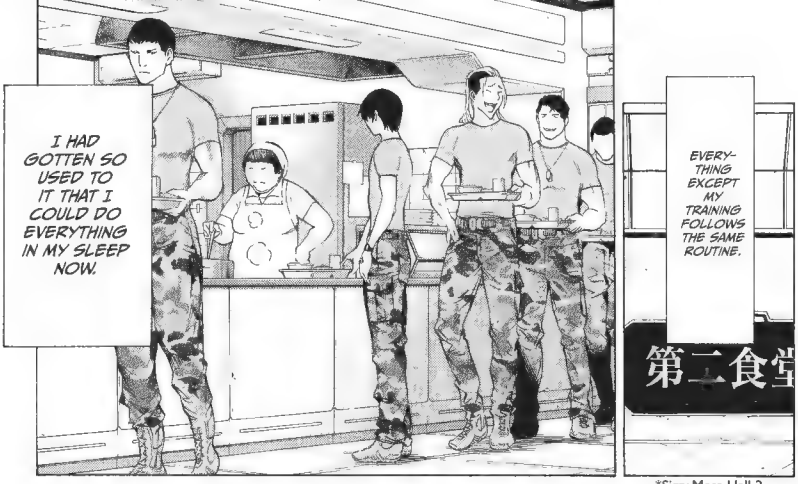
1030	Ask Shasta to make me a battle axe.
1130	Eat lunch.
1300	Train with the sarge.



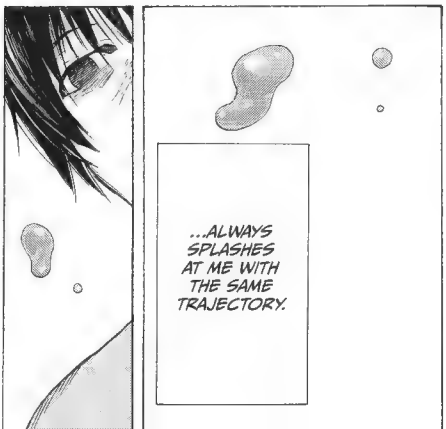
1745	Eat dinner.
1900	Go to Yonabaru's party.



2200	Check Jacket. Go to bed.
Next Day 0112	Help Yonabaru into his bunk.


I HAD GOTTEN SO USED TO IT THAT I COULD DO EVERYTHING IN MY SLEEP NOW.
EVERY-THING EXCEPT MY TRAINING FOLLOWS THE SAME ROUTINE.
第二食堂

*Sign: Mess Hall 2



WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT. IT'S ALWAYS GOOD!
SHUJAA
SHUJAA
HEY, RACHEL. THE LUNCH WAS GREAT TODAY.
HUFF HUFF
OWW.

KUNK

MILK
IT TASTED GOOD IN THE BEGINNING, BUT...

HAHA... THANKS!
SHUJAA
110° C
110° C

ANYBODY WOULD GET TIRED OF EATING THE SAME FOOD...
...EIGHTY TIMES IN A ROW EVEN IF A THREE-STAR CHEF WAS MAKING IT.

SIGH...
AND I HAVE A HEADACHE TOO...

IT'S JUST A SOURCE OF ENERGY FOR ME NOW...
!
NZT

HEY, LOOK.
IT'S RITA VRATASKI!
SO, THAT'S THE FULL METAL BITCH...
SHFF...

THE TIME IS ELEVEN-FORTY HOURS.
RITA IS QUIETLY EATING LUNCH THREE TABLES AWAY FROM ME BY HERSELF.
AND I WATCH HER.
I DIDN'T CHOOSE TO EAT AT THE SAME TIME WITH HER ON PURPOSE ...
MNCH
IT JUST ENDED UP THAT WAY.

FSH
IWHAP
GGG
GGG
ELEVEN-FORTY THREE.
RITA FAILS TO PICK UP A BEAN.
PLIP
...
SHUP
MNCH
...?
AND ELEVEN-FORTY-FIVE.
RITA TOSSES THE PICKLED PLUM INTO HER MOUTH...

HAHA.
JUST LIKE ALWAYS.
?!

SHE'S SUPPOSEDLY TWENTY-TWO...
... MOTIONS ARE SURPRISINGLY CHILDISH FOR HER AGE...
RITA'S ...

BAM!
SHE'D PROBABLY LOOK CUTE IF SHE WAS IN ORDINARY CLOTHES AND NOT IN A MILITARY UNIFORM...

...
WHAT...?
YOU ENJOYIN' YOURSELF?

#7 MEMO
HE DOESN'T LIKE MY FACE OR SOME-THING...?
SO HOW COME YOU'RE GULPIN' DOWN YOUR CHOW LIKE IT WAS SOMETHING YOU FOUND STUCK ON THE END OF A TOILET BRUSH?!
HOW COULD I NOT ENJOY MYSELF IN SUCH FINE COMPANY...?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE'S PICKED A FIGHT WITH ME.

FOOD IS ONE OF THE FEW THINGS A SOLDIER CAN ENJOY HERE!!
WATCHING YOU IS MAKING ME SICK!
KLAK
SPLISH
MILK
PUP
...
WHAT?
NRMR
NRMR
HEY...!
STOP FIGHTING !!

EVEN SO...
...
BUT... YOU WERE JUST COMPLAIN-ING ABOUT HOW MISERABLE HE LOOKED WHEN HE WAS EATING THE FOOD, RACHEL!
SHUP
YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!
I NEVER THOUGHT I LOOKED THAT BAD...
I GUESS THIS IS MY FAULT...
VSH
HEY, COME BACK HERE!
EEP!
NO... I'M STILL NOT DONE WITH HIM!!
HERE... HAVE A SHRIMP. ON THE HOUSE...

?!
WHIFF
SWIP
...!!
YOU DROPPED THIS...
WHOOA
PAP
KRASH
ACK...

WAAAAH
DO IT! DO IT!
WHY YOU...!!
WHAT? WHAT? IS IT A FIGHT?!
BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF HIM!!
KLAK
IT'S MEANINGLESS...
SERGEANT FERRELL TOLD ME TO..
I BET TWENTY BUCKS ON THE LITTLE GUY!
OOH... KEIJI!
...IS NO MATCH FOR ME ANYMORE.
SHOOM
ANYONE WHO THINKS THAT A SECOND IS A SECOND...
SHA

...EVERY SECOND.
BREAK DOWN...

...BUT YOU CAN CARVE THE PERCEPTION OF TIME INTO FINER AND FINER PIECES.
YOU CAN'T STRETCH TIME...
...TO TURN THE SITUATION AROUND TO MY ADVANTAGE!
I CAN PREPARE MYSELF BY FIGURING OUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME IN THE NEXT MOMENT...
DAMN IT... STOP RUNNING AROUND!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
STAGGER...

HE'S GOT NO IDEA HOW MANY TIMES I COULD'VE KILLED HIM.
A RIGHT STRAIGHT. HIS BODY IS WIDE OPEN.
I CAN DODGE THAT EASILY WITH JUST MY UPPER BODY.
...A LEFT HOOK.
YEAH! FIGHT BACK!
WAAAAAH
HEY, KEIJI! YOU HAVE TO FIGHT BACK TOO!
BUT HE'LL PROBABLY KEEP PESTERING ME IF I WIN...
AND I DON'T WANT TO WASTE MY TRAINING TIME...
VSSH
STOP IT!!
AH... THAT SHOULD BE A GOOD ONE.
I'LL JUST TAKE A LIGHT PUNCH AND...

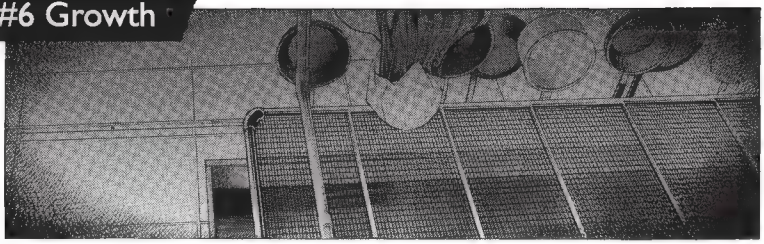
OH!
SLUP
GLOMP
THOK
PUUMP...
HURRY!
BRING A STRETCHER!

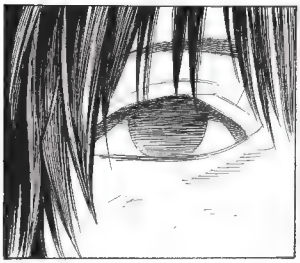
C'MON, KEIJI.
MENR
OW.
MENR
I BET TWENTY BUCKS ON YOU, YOU KNOW!
YOU LET ME DOWN.
GSH
KLAK

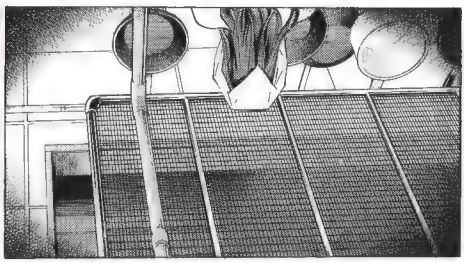
GOOD MOVES.

If you flipped a switch in the back of your brain, you could watch a second go by like the frames of a movie. Once you figured out what would be happening ten frames later, you could take whatever steps you needed to turn the situation to your advantage. All at a subconscious level. In battle, you couldn't count on anyone who didn't understand how to break down time.

#6 Growth







ARE YOU... ALL RIGHT?
YEAH...

...
SNUP

YEAH, YOU SURE DID!
DID I LOOK THAT BAD WHEN I WAS EATING...?

THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.
SORRY ABOUT THAT. HE'S REALLY NOT SUCH A BAD GUY.
OH NO, I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE...

...
...YOU WERE AT A FUNERAL OR SOMETHING.
YOU LOOKED LIKE...
SIP
ZWOOOOSH
THE PREVIOUS LOOP...
BOOM
!
MY SELFISH GRAND-STANDING...
KIRIYA!
PAF

GSH
...HAD GOTTEN THE SARGE KILLED...
BSTL
OKAY... I'LL BE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON...
A FUNERAL... SHE HAS A POINT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHY...DIDN'T YOU FIGHT BACK?
I'D LIKE TO SAVE IT FOR THE BATTLE-FIELD.
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE HOLDING BACK.
YOU WERE OBVIOUSLY THE BETTER FIGHTER.
YOU SEEING ANYONE?
NO.

KLAK
コン
YOU'RE GOING INTO BATTLE TOMORROW, AREN'T YOU?
YEAH.
...
I'M FREE TONIGHT.
1/10
SHIFF...

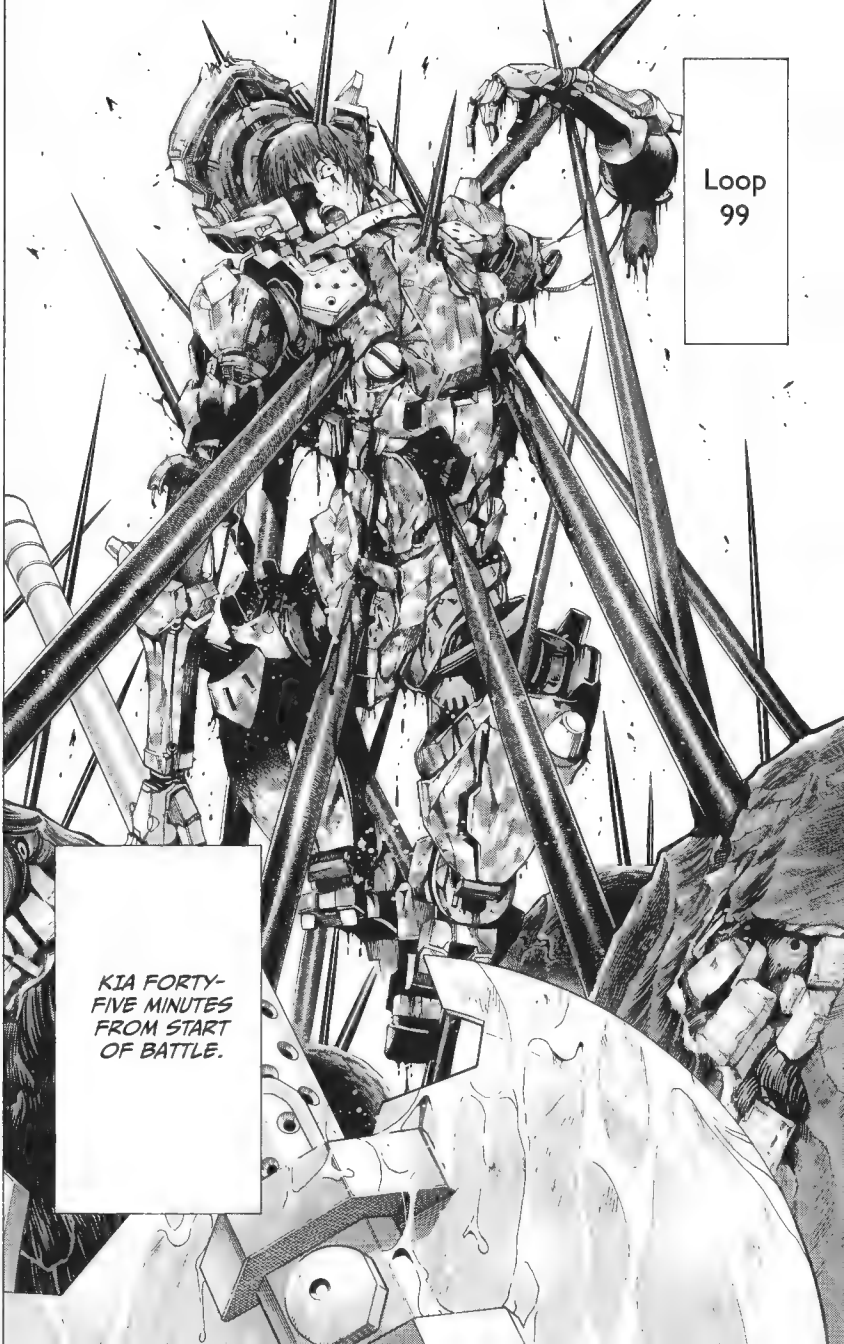
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
I DON'T SAY THAT SORT OF THING TO JUST ANYONE.
SORRY, BUT I'M NOT THE GUY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.
I'VE GOTTA GO TRAIN...
BYE.
KACHA
BAM!

SHA
RACHEL KISARAGI ...
SHE LOOKED A BIT LIKE THAT LIBRARIAN ...

エラリー・クイーン
Ellery Queen
The Tragedy of X
の悲劇
SHE LOVED READING MYSTERY NOVELS...
THE GIRL I HAD A CRUSH ON BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.
MY BROKEN HEART...
...AND MY APPLICATION TO THE UNITED DEFENSE FORCE WEREN'T CONNECTED IN ANY WAY.

IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS SOME PATHETIC GUY WHO COULDN'T EVEN TELL HER MY FEELINGS, WHO THOUGHT THAT THE WAR WOULD CHANGE ME.
GUOO
OOO
SARGE...
KIRIYA. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
HUFF
KRRK
HUFF
KRRK
YOU ROLL OUT TOMORROW. GETTING COLD FEET?
HUFF
HUFF
AT LEAST, I DON'T THINK SO.
SARGE!!

AND IF LIFE REALLY WAS A ONE-TIME THING FOR ME, I MIGHT HAVE MADE THE DECISION TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH RACHEL.
HUFF
SHE... ALWAYS SAID THAT WE ONLY LIVE ONCE...
WOULD YOU LET ME TRAIN WITH YOU?
BUT THIS IS MY LIFE NOW...


Loop
99
KIA FORTY-FIVE MINUTES FROM START OF BATTLE.

Loop 110
THEY BREAK THROUGH OUR LINE. YONABARU IS THE WEAK LINK.
K... KEIJI...
THAT... MYSTERY NOVEL... THE MURDERER ...IS...
KIA FIFTY-SEVEN MINUTES FROM START OF BATTLE.

KIA SIXTY-ONE MINUTES FROM START OF BATTLE.
BOOSH
Loop 123
THE MIGRAINES THAT STARTED AFTER ABOUT FIFTY LOOPS ARE GETTING WORSE.
MUMBLE
URRRGH ...
DAMN ...
SONOFA-BITCH...
THREE MIMICS FROM THE RIGHT...
NO, FOUR.
ARGH.
AAAH...
AAAARGH...

HUFF!
I DON'T THINK I DIED, BUT I WAS STILL CAUGHT IN THE LOOP.
I LOSE CONSCIOUS-NESS EIGHTY MINUTES AFTER THE START OF BATTLE.
IF THAT'S HOW IT'S GONNA BE, THAT'S HOW IT'S GONNA BE.
GWOO
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
Loop 154

Loop
158
SLASH
AND THEN...
SPLUB
SPLUB
SPLUB
ZWOOOSH

"Our lives should be
written in stone.
Paper is too temporary—
too easy to rewrite."

#7 Question

KRIII
Loop
158
VREE
!
DOOM

KEIJI!!
GWOO
ZWOOOO...
?!
...OOO

ZLSH
GSH
SPLAT

KRSHAA
SP
BOOSH

THAT'S ...
...KEIJI, ISN'T IT?
...

LISTEN UP!!
THAT AXE... I THOUGHT HE WAS CARRYING IT AROUND AS A JOKE...

KIRIYA WILL BE IN THE CENTER OF THE ACTION! DO NOT GET IN HIS WAY!!
AS OF THIS MOMENT, THE 17TH COMPANY WILL BACK UP KEIJI KIRIYA!
GSH
GSH
ZSH
KRCHK
THE GREEN RECRUIT; THE PAPER DOLL SWEPT ALONG BY THE WINDS OF WAR WAS GONE.
I'M GOING IN.
SARGE...

A VETERAN WHO BENT THE WAR TO MY WILL.
I HAD BECOME A MACHINE WITH BLOOD IN PLACE OF OIL...

BAKOOM!
VMP
VMP
VMP

VMP
VMP
VMP
VMP
VMP
VMP
CALAMITY DOG, THIS IS CHIEF BREEDER.
THE JAPANESE UNIT TO THE NORTH IS APPROACHING ALPHA SERVER.
WE WEREN'T EXPECTING THIS.
?!

GSH

KRRRRK
A
AAAAA
!!
KCH
KCH

KLAK
ガシン

KRDDOM
BLAAM
...?
...

SLAM
BOOM
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
ガタ
ガタ
ガタ
HUFF
VSH

YOU REMEMBER HOW MANY POINTS WE BEAT YOU BY IN THAT GAME?
THAT RUGBY GAME WE PLAYED A MONTH AGO BETWEEN OUR UNITS.
HUFF
HFF
HUFF
SHOOR
SHOOR
JP

AT ANY RATE, TAKE A NICE DEEP BREATH.
...!
IT'S NOT REALLY MY IDEA TO TALK TO YOU LIKE THIS, BUT...
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? IT WAS SOME KIND OF INTRAMURAL RECORD...
...
...?!

VSH
VSH
KWEE
YOU OWE ME ONE.
I GUESS YOU'RE FINE NOW.
VSH
KWEE...
STAGGER...
WHAT ARE YOU... TALKIN' ABOUT...?!
KLANG
HAHA.
LET'S HOPE OUR LUCK HOLDS.
NOT SURE I LIKE IT.
THAT'S SOME ATTITUDE YOU'VE GOT.
KRDOOM
GSH
GSH
KRDOOM
SHE KEPT ME CALM WITH THAT RANDOM TALK OF GREEN TEA...
SHE SAVED ME ONCE WHEN I WAS STILL WEAK...

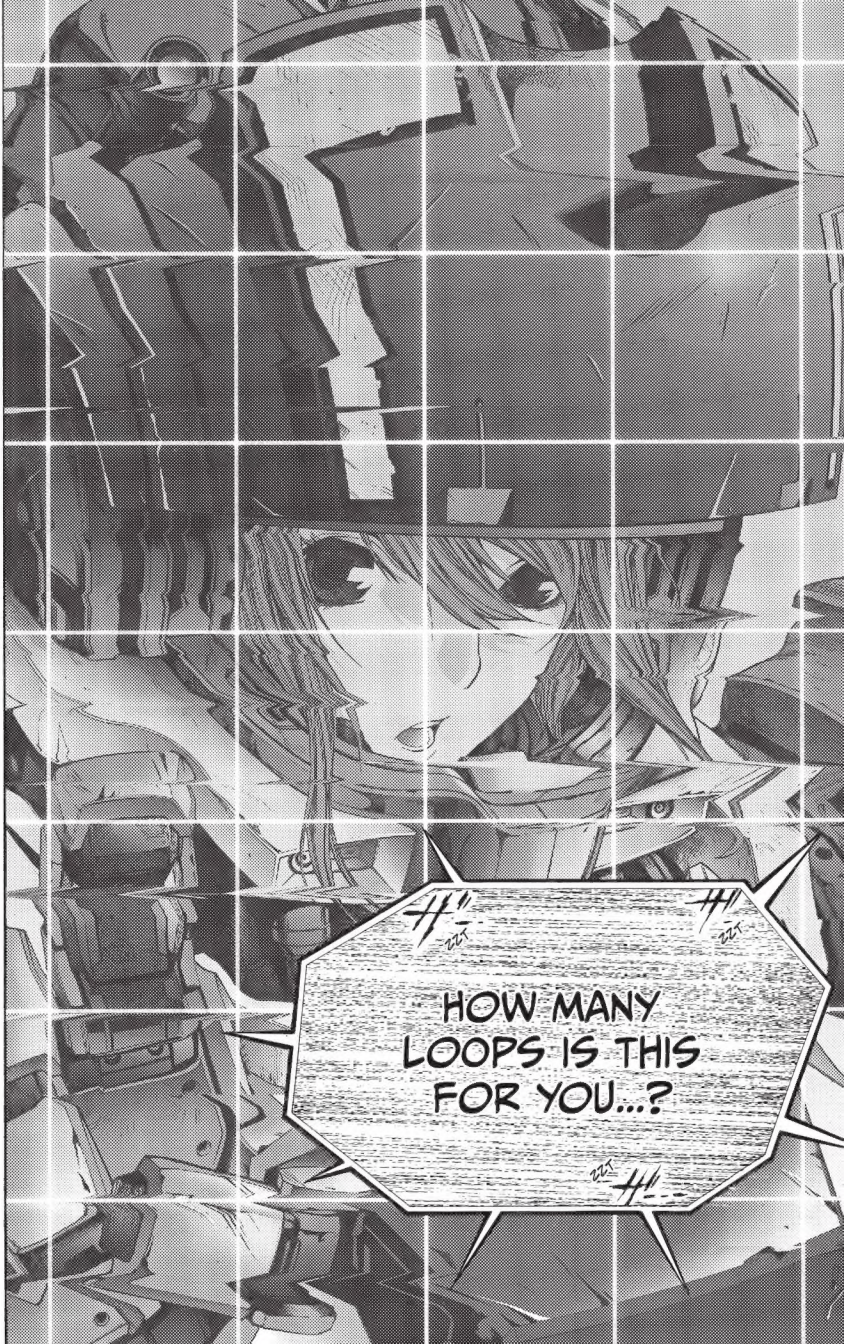
SO RITA'S OVER THERE...
THE RUMBLE OF AN EXPLOSION WOULD FOLLOW WHEREVER SHE WENT...
DOO
KRR...
DOOM
THUDOM
!
...SHATTERING EVERYTHING APART.
JP
THAT AREA SHOULD BE OKAY.

...WHEN THEY SAW RITA IN HER RED JACKET.
THE SOLDIERS GAINED HOPE...
IT WAS AS IF THEY HAD FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THE VALKYRIE.
BUT IT SUITED ME FINE THAT IT WAS ONE-SIDED...
MAYBE I WAS STARTING TO FEEL SOMETHING FOR RITA MYSELF...?
THESE SOLDERS GAVE HER THE NAME FULL METAL BITCH OUT OF RESPECT.

I CAN'T LOVE ANYONE RIGHT NOW.
AFTER ALL, ANY TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER WOULD BE LOST ONCE I LOOPED AGAIN...
GSSH
03
THAT'S...
REMBE
GWOOO
!
KLAK
!

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I CAN TELL!
THAT'S THE MIMIC I FOUGHT IN MY FIRST LOOP!!
REMBR
REMBR
LET ME SHOW YOU...
LONG TIME NO SEE!
zzzt...
CLOMP
...HOW STRONG I'VE BECOME!!

KRDOOM
...
RRMMBB
YOU THERE...
?
THAT'S RIGHT, I'M TALKING TO YOU...
RITA!
Y...
...O...
...ERE...
!!
THIS VOICE.
BLIP


HOW MANY LOOPS IS THIS FOR YOU...?

To Be Continued...

Hiroshi Sakurazaka

Hiroshi Sakurazaka was born in Tokyo in 1970. After a career in information technology, he published his first novel, *Modern Magic Made Simple* (*Yoku wakaru gendai mahou*), in 2003 with Super Dash Bunko, a popular young adult light novel imprint. There are now seven volumes in the series, and it was adapted as a manga in 2008 and as a television anime series in 2009. Sakurazaka published *All You Need Is Kill* with Super Dash Bunko in 2004 and with it earned his first Seiun Award nomination for best of the year honors in Japanese science fiction. His 2004 short story "Saitama Chainsaw Massacre" won the 16th *SF Magazine* Reader's Award.

In 2009, *All You Need Is Kill* was the launch title for Haikasoru, a unique imprint dedicated to publishing the most compelling contemporary Japanese science fiction and fantasy for English-speaking audiences. *New York Times* best-selling author John Scalzi declared *All You Need Is Kill* to be a novel that "reads fast, kicks ass, and keeps on coming," and it has proven to be one of Haikasoru's most popular titles. Sakurazaka's other novels include *Characters* (cowritten with Hiroki Azuma) and *Slum Online*, which was published in English by Haikasoru in 2010.

In 2010, Sakurazaka started an experimental digital magazine, *AiR*, with Junji Hotta. He remains one of Japan's most energetic writers of both light novels and adult science fiction.

Ryousuke Takeuchi

Ryosuke Takuchi's first serialization in *Weekly Shonen Jump* as a writer was *ST&RS* (Stars) with artist Masaru Miyokawa.

yoshitoshi ABe

Illustrator and manga artist, yoshitoshi ABe worked on the character designs for anime series such as *Serial Experiments Lain*, *NieA_7*, *Texhnolyze* and *Haibane Renmei*.

Takeshi Obata

Takeshi Obata was born in 1969 in Niigata, Japan, and is the artist of the wildly popular *Shonen Jump* title *Hikaru no Go*, which won the 2003 Tezuka Osamu Cultural Prize: Shinsei "New Hope" award and the 2000 Shogakukan Manga award. Obata is also the artist of *Arabian Majin Bokentan Lamp Lamp*, *Ayatsuri Sakon*, *Cyborg Jichan G.*, and the smash hit manga *Death Note*. *All You Need Is Kill* is his latest work following the hugely successful series *Bakuman*。.

All You Need Is Kill

ALL YOU NEED IS KILL Vol.1

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

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Storyboards by Ryosuke Takeuchi
Original Illustrations by yoshitoshi ABe

Art by Takeshi Obata

Original cover design by Mitsuru Kobayashi [geni a lòide]

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